The Journal of R F E Ferrier of Great Yarmouth & Hemsby
February 1894 - November 1932

Transcribed from the original (Norfolk Record Office MC 578/1, 779X1)

Richard Frederick Ernest Ferrier 1865-1933

Cuttings from a Great Yarmouth newspaper 1924

About the transcription:

The first several pages have been excised in the original. The author's writing is inconsistent in capitalisation, abbreviations and punctuation; the variety has been approximately reproduced to maintain the author's style, as have regular idiosyncracies such as "to day" rather than "today". It is clearly written with a view to be read by others, rather than as a private diary, apart from the first few lines. There may be some persons' names or initials that are incorrect being illegible. Some footnotes are provided for readers' information.

Tuesday 13 Febry *{1894}*– Drill & meeting
of non-Com - [1]
Monday 13 March, Went to Lodge
night at Assembly rooms,[2] raised
Geo F Holt, & initiated A.E.Gillot [3]
Banquet afterwards, Collier sat next
to me, we had friendly conversation
the first time since our disagreeable
14 months ago - Afterwards went to
the Friendly Societies Hall & was received
in to the order of Forestry [4] with W. Wyllys [5]
F Danby Palmer [6] was there, facetious
as usual -

1 Novr 1894 It is nearly 8 mos
since I made an entry in this
journal, & a lot of important
things have happened in the
interval, Bertie [7] has passed his
final examination & been admitted
a Solicitor & I have been made
a Notary public, Bertie & I entd
into a Deed of partnership on the
29th Septr for 21 yrs & he is now
settled into the business - shortly
after, at the last moment, having

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[1] Non-commissioned officers - Ferrier was a Lieutenant in the 2nd Volunteer Battalion Norfolk Regiment based at Great Yarmouth
[2] Ferrier was a Freemason ; Royal Assembly Rooms
[3] Gillott was associated with the Great Yarmouth Harriers hunt
[4] Friendly society which was formed in 1834 as the Ancient Order of Foresters
[5] H J M Wyllys
[6] Frederick Danby Palmer Mayor of Great Yarmouth 1888
[7] Ferrier's younger brother John Albert Henry. Their father Frederick William was also a solicitor, whose own father Richard was a brewer in Great Yarmouth.

been invited to contest the
St Georges Ward by Mr JNB Johnson [8]
& Mr Blagg ~~contested~~ consented
to do so & the poll took place
today - I came up in the
conservative interest & Tom
Green the old representative
& Dr O'Farrell in the liberal
& Benj Springall as an Independent
J N B Johnson & F Danby Palmer
nominated & seconded me
& the latter sent some of his
"Workers" to call upon me
with a view to help me with
my election but, upon my
intimating that I intended to run
my contest on pure lines I
did not see any more of them
until this morning when I saw
Bulley, (the Landlord of the P. of
Wales Tavern Nelson Rd) Allcock
(F D P's groom) & the Millers
(Dusty Millers brothers) Parker
the propr of the Welcome Sailor
& others with carts labelled " Vote

[8] Likely of the clothing manufacturers Johnson & Sons Ltd, Great Yarmouth

for Springall " bringing up voters.
However Mr Peaton had been
most kind & had helped me
with my election canvassing &
doing all in his power &
with his help & that of the
Johnsons I managed to get
head of the Poll ~~beat~~ with 357
votes beating Green by , who
followed with , while Springall
notwithstanding his 'workers'
was only able to earn 240
& O' Farrell , The following
was the analysis, Ferrier
plumpers – – – – [9]
Green plumpers
Springall plumpers
O' Farrell "
Ferrier & Green –
Ferrier & Springall –
Ferrier & O' Farrell
Green & Springall
Green & O Farrell
Springall & O Farrell

[9] Presumably these figures were intended to be inserted later

I was fearfully tired after the
election & after just
looking into the two clubs
went home & got to bed
My chief workers besides Mr
Peaton were Nicholls, Platt,
England, Stockman, Legord
Dowdy, Wright the Baker
& many others, Bertie & Newman
had charge of the Committee
rooms & Messrs Morson &
Wyllys lend Broughams
& Tomkins (of the Norfolk)
Fenner, & Bonfellow, carts,
& so according to my hope
I am on the Council before
I am 30 years of age -

Novr 9 1894 attended my first
Council meeting at 12 Frank Arnold [10]
made Mayor, the first radical
Mayor for 42 years, no conservative
would take office - Mr Arnold's
dignified intention of attending
divine worship at his usual
chapel "Park Baptist Chapel" [11]

[10] Frank Arnold
[11] Park Baptist Church

created bad feeling amongst
many Councillors, Rifles Volunteers
will go to church tomorrow but
Artillery Vols' [12] orders cancelled -
took wine with the Mayor after
the ceremony -
11th Novr 1894 To church with
Rifles this morning full church
Corporation pew full Deputy
Mayor in the Mayors chair -
Bidding prayer as usual -
Had champagne with the Colonel
after church in the officers room
at the Drill Hall - Seedy for
last fortnight reaction after the
work of the Election I suppose -
Friday 14 Decr 1894 Madeline
Bennett came this evening from
Town to stay over the Bachelors
dance, I met her 7 o'clock
train - Mr J T Waters [13] told me
this evening that I had been
unanimously selected a member
of the Monthly Book Club
- very glad, he tells me that

[12] 1st Norfolk Artillery Volunteers
[13] Coroner of Great Yarmouth

my great great grandfather
my great grandfather &
my grandfather have been
members of this Club which
has continued & flourished
for 114 years.

Xmas Day 1894, Up at 7.30 went
to early communion service with
Madeline & Maud,[14] at St Johns
Church, to the old church at
10.30 with them, sat immediately
behind the Corporation pews, stayed
at home in the afternoon & played
chess & halma [15] with Madeline, all
dined together at 6. I asked
Madeline to be my wife tonight
at about 9.30, & she consented
Stayed & talked to Madeline till
11 pm, Mother [16] Maud & Bertie
very pleased. I forgot to note
that I was on the 17th Decr
elected a member of the Board of
Guardians [17] for the St Georges Ward
Peaton I & Howlett being the

[14] Maud Marion, Ferrier's sister
[15] A board game popular at the time
[16] Mary Ann Emma neé Hawes married aged 19 Ferrier's father Frederick William, a widower, in 1863
[17] Authorities that administered the Poor Law

successful candidates over
Goate, Springall & Buck the Radical
candidates -

Thursday 3rd January 1895 - Madeline
left today for Town & en route
for Brighton tomorrow - Have
spent a very happy week, am
to meet M in Ware on the 12th -
The Shaws, F Diver, S Chuscan [18] &
A H Meadows [19] came in on the 31st
& 'saw' the old year out & the
New Year in - We had soup
drank elderberry wine & sang
auld langs syne at 12 o'clock
& broke up at 1. - we stood on
the Balcony & heard the Bells
ring -.-.

Sunday 6 Jany 1895 Reading this
morning - walked to the Harbours
Mouth with Maud this afternoon
& to Church (Parish) this evening -
Arthur Meadows & Bunn there -
on Friday I attended my first
meeting of the Board of Guardians
Supported Peatons nomination

[18] Approximate, name unclear
[19] Dr A H Meadows, son of Dr Daniel Meadows of Yarmouth, and brother in law of Frank Burton, a Yarmouth solicitor and Mayor of Yarmouth in 1891-92.

as Chairman, Board all in
favour except the three female
representatives, Leach, Cooper
& Cross - Heard from M to
night (Friday) -

Thursday 8th Jany 1895 Arthur
Meadows Bertie & I to Beccles
by 5.45 train to dance got up
by some ladies at Beccles at
the Town Hall. Stayed at the
Waveney Hotel -. Good dance
Home at 4 AM deep snow
Bed at 5 - Found Smith the
landlord & Ecclestone a middle -
aged grocer & the son of Peter
Youngs of the "Kings Head" at the
hotel when we returned, they
appeared from their demeanour &
the presence of two big bottles of
Champagne upon the table to have
been enjoying themselves -

Wednesday 9th Jany 1895. Up this
morning at 10 feeling seedy
train to Yarmouth at 12
busy all the afternoon at office

Thursday 10th January 1895 To Norwich
tonight by 5.5 train with Podji [20]
A.Meadows & H Bunn, to go to
the Norwich Bachelors dance at
Noverres Rooms.[21] Stayed at the Royal [22]
had dinner & got to the dance rather
late, good dance, Mr & Mrs J T.
Waters, Mr & Mrs Vicars, Mrs Applewhaite
& her sister Mrs Buxton went back
by the mail - to bed at 3.30 up
at 8.30 Back to Yarmouth 10.45 -

Friday 11 January 1895 Received my
first books from the Yarmouth
Book Club, Sutton sends them to
me & I to Mr. Morson, Received
the "Pall Mall Budget" [23] & the "Builder" [24]
Sanitary meeting tonight at 7 pm.

Friday 30 Decr 1898 It is just four
years since I wrote the last entry
& what a lot of important items
have passed in my life since that
time - I was married on the 3rd
Septr 1895 - & after our wedding
trip in Switzerland we settled in our
first home at No.8 South Quay

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[20] Approximate, name unclear
[21] The ballroom of the Assembly House, Norwich
[22] Royal Hotel, Norwich
[23] "Pall Mall Budget" a weekly digest of articles from newspaper *The Pall Mall Gazette,* re-launched in 1893 by William Waldorf Astor.
[24] "The Builder" a British journal of architecture published in the 19th and 20th centuries.

There we have spent 3 & a half
happy years & there our boy was
born on the 4th November 1896.
(Richard Gournay Ferrier) the second
name being a mark of respect
to the old house of Gournay [25] of which
he is now one of the representatives.
Poor M has had bad health for
many months during this time
& was seven weeks in London
at Fitzroy House Fitzroy Square
under Dr Lewers (April & May 1898)
Since the last entry I have been
an unsuccessful candidate for
the Town Clerkship the appointment
being given to Mr.A.H.Miller a
a gentleman who had previously had
very large experience in that kind
of work. I also was an applicant
for the Clerkship to the Board of
Guardians which Frank Barton
managed to secure - I have been
returned twice again unopposed
for the Council for the St Georges
Ward once when I retired

[25] House of Gournay

to become a candidate for the Town
Clerkship - During this period my
father died, (9th Octr 1895)
Maud has married Joe Badeley [26]
had a baby & gone to Hong Kong
& our business has increased
in leaps & bounds -

1899 Jan 3 We left No 8 South
Quay today & went to stay with
mother at Camperdown during
our moving to 6 Kimberley Terrace [27]
sorry to leave the dear little house
where we have lived during the first 3
years of our married life & where
our boy was born, but we have
some capital little photographs of
the rooms. -

1899 April 7 We have been over 3 mos
in our new house 6 Kimberley Terrace
& are very pleased with it, we have
been trying a little golf while Letty
Miles has been staying with us -
I have gone through the session ~~of~~
as W. Master of my Lodge 313 United
Friends, & initiated Mr. Peile, a

[26] Eventually Superintendent of Police in Hong Kong
[27] Now part of the Carlton Hotel

temporay resident here in Kimberley Terrace, Dr. Potts, partner to Dr. Wrigley & Mr. W.J. Joseph a Solr. in H Chamberlins Office - M I am glad to say is better & Ric is getting quite a big boy - Uncle Edward [28] died at Castletown on the 15 Mar 1899 & Bertie & I went over to his funeral & stayed at the Adelphi Hotel Liverpool, the Villiers Hotel Douglas & the George Hotel Castletown, very great marks of respect were paid to Uncle Ed's memory everybody turning out & all the shops being shut & blinds down; we had a very rough passage back & went straight on to the Inns of Court Hotel [29] & stayed in London for a few days M joining us there.

1 Octr 1899. It is perfect weather & in consequence thereof & of the presence of the Miles with us I have begun golf. - Since I made the last entry we stayed a

[28] Canon Edward Ferrier, Government Chaplain at Castletown, Isle of Man, for 41 years until he retired in 1896.
[29] Inns Of Court Hotel, High Holborn, London

week at Ostend & found it most
remarkably hot - We also
had a particularly charming
little anniversary holiday at
Cromer staying at the Links Hotel
we have made a journal of
the trip - mother & Bertie are
at present away either at London
or Northampton. Ethel Skinner
has stayed with us & I like
her very much. Amy & Letty Miles
staying here a fortnight during this
month playing golf with me.

9th Novr 1899 - Have been to the
Town Hall today to see Dr. James
Ryley relinquish his robe & chain
of the Mayoralty in favour of Mr.
Benjamin Howard Press the new
Mayor, afterwards we went & drank
champagne with Mr. Mayor in the
supper room & wished him good
health & prosperity.

19th December 1899 - Robert England
Ferrier arrived unexpectedly at 9.45

this morning, Mr Wyllys was there
& mother, the nurse I at once
telegraphed for, pending her arrival
Mrs.Sharpe a wife of a Solicitor
practicing in London & who is wintering
at Yarmouth & staying at the Victoria
Hotel came in & most kindly took
charge of the case, everything most
satisfactory R.E.F. being a most
sturdy little being, he never
cries except when hungry - I put
announcements of his birth in the
Standard & Times of the 21st Dec -

Wednesday 28 March 1900
We christened Robert today
at 3.30 at St Nicolas
Church Mr. Harford Battersby [30]
performing the ceremony -
Douglas Bennett [31] was present
as one of the godfathers I
acting as sponsor for John
Miles & Madeline for Lilla
Ferrier his godmother -
Mother & Bertie were also
present & Ric knelt by the

[30] Rev. Dundas Harford was vicar of St Stephen, Norwich, 1901-1908. He changed his surname from Harford-Battersby to Harford in 1902.
[31] Ferrier's brother in law

font as well behaving very well
for a boy of 3 years 4 months -
I am glad to say Madeline
seems to be in much better
health than before -. We have
been lately hearing of grand
accounts of Maud's success
as an amateur actress at
Hong Kong - she took the part
of Phoebe in the Yeoman
of the Guard, got up for the
War fund, Lord Scarsdale taking
the part of the gaoler, her
great success was the duet
"I'll be they bride " coupled with
her byplay & 'acting' - .

Tuesday 12th June 1900
By this evenings post I received the
following letter " 4 Surrey Street Norwich
Dear Sir & Brother, I am instructed by the
Right Worshipful Provincial Grand master
to convey to you his desire to appoint
you to the office of Senior Warden in
the Provincial Grand Lodge (of Norfolk)
for the ensuing year and to ask the favour

of a reply at your earliest convenience.
x x x x - The annual meeting of
Provincial Grand Lodge will be held
at Norwich on Thursday July 26th
Yours faithfully & fraternally Geo W.
G. Barnard [32] Provincial Grand Secretary
To W.Bro R.F.E. Ferrier J.P.M United
Friends Lodge No.313 " -

This vey high masonic honor was
entirely unexpected & is I believe the
fourth time only that this the greatest
honor - next to the two permanent
appointments of R.W.Prov Grand Master
& R.W.Deputy Prov G.Master - has
been conferred upon a Yarmouth
man during the last half century
Charles Diver, Walter Diver & his cousin
Harold Chamberlin [33] being the only three
Brethren who have held that rank -

28 June 1900 to 23 July 1900 We spent
a very enjoyable holiday between
these dates at Bexhill-on-Sea
where Madeline began what I
hope will be a very successful
"golf" career, under the very

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[32] Messrs. Bailey, Cross, and Barnard, Solicitors, Surrey Street, Norwich

[33] Harold Chamberlin JP, a senior partner in the solicitors firm of Chamberlin, Talbot and Bracey; for 33 years he was a borough councillor.

capable coaching of Rolland the professional there, they are nice little links [34] quite near our lodging "San Remo" on the Cantelupe Road kept by Mrs Page. We made the acquaintance of Miss Rilson the local "good player" & the Misses Wallis Mr.Graham, Dr MacDougal, Miss Kissling, Mrs Ogilvie & several others & met Miss May Astley & Mrs Griffiths her friend - We went over to Wadhurst & spent the night with Mrs Joyce We also cycled over to Pevensey & had tea with the Suttons - We spent some of our evenings at the Kursaal [35] and most of our days on the golf links. & altogether had a most enjoyable little holiday.

July 26 1900 I went to Norwich by the 12 train to attend Provincial Grand Lodge of Norfolk & received from the R.W.Prov Grand Master the appointment as Senior Grand Warden he investing me with the collar & jewel of that office - after lodge

[34] Bexhill-on-Sea Golf Club
[35] The "Kursaal" - Bexhill Museum

the Bethren attended divine service
in the cathedral I taking the place
of honor on the right of the Prov
grand master Hamon L'estrange [36] -
afterwards I attended the Banquet
at the masonic rooms where the
lodge met & replied to the toast
of the P grand officers & left for
home by the 9.15 train.

1st Aug to 18th Septr 1900
Spent a very pleasant seven weeks at
the White House Farm Herringfleet (Mr.J
Coopers) We shut up our house 6 Kimberley
& took a big load of Lares & Pennates.[37] We
did plenty of cycling I cycling in & back
every day - Ric very fond of the two
ponies Bobby & Poppie but the latter
which was the quieter was his favourite
he had his first lessons in riding - M
took a violent fancy to Herringfleet
Hall [38] the seat of Col Leathes [39] & hoped
one day we might have such a country
home

October 18th 1900 Very surprised to
receive intelligence today that

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[36] Hamon L'Estrange 1840 -1918 of an old family of Hunstanton, Norfolk, wrote *Le Strange Records, A.D. 1100-1310*. He completed his father's development of "New" Hunstanton as a holiday resort.

[37] Showing off his Classics education: literally, Roman household gods, colloquially, household possessions

[38] Herringfleet Hall

[39] Leathes family of Herringfleet

I am to be opposed in my return to
the Council on the 1st Novr by the
late Secretary to the St Georges Ward
Conservative Association W.M.
Littlewood,[40] who states that he has
a grievance against me, we had
a meeting of the Assn tonight at
the Friendly Society's Hall when I
was adopted by the Assn & Mr
Littlewood was rejected, it is
decided that I shall join forces
with Mr Tom Green the other retiring
member - It is very annoying
to have all the trouble & expense of
a contested election when it is
perfectly unnecessary - the grievance
turns out to be that Bertie did
not appear for Littlewood when
summoned for Sunday trading, he
was prevented doing so by reason of
an important engagement but Littlewood
thinks it was intentional - I was
away on a holiday at the time
Query where the grievance against
me comes in ! -

[40] Recorded as pastry cook in 1902, and bankrupt.

Octr 25 1900 Glad to find that Littlewood has withdrawn his nomination & T. Green & myself have a second walkover for the St Georges Ward as members of the Council - Littlewood I hear was disgusted at the result of his caucus, finding that "people did not see any reason why Mr Ferrier should not be returned" & so he withdrew - .

Xmas 1900 25 Dec
M & I went to early service at S. James' & to the Parish Church after Breakfast, walked home with Mrs H Bellamy, Ric & Nurse Mary dined with us at 1.30 & Rob sat in his high chair up to the table & behaved himself very decorously, we afterwards went to dine with Mother & Bertie at 39 Camperdown the last time we shall probably have Xmas dinner at the house which we have had for 12 years

31st Decr 1900 The eve of the new century - M & I called at 39 Camperdown for Mother & Bertie & walked down to the old church at 11.40 arriving at the gates at 11.55, we were disappointed in not hearing the Bells ring the old year out but afterwards they set up a merry peal - We all talked about what probably our great grandfather & his family did on that ~~yea~~ day one hundred years & made many interesting & fanciful speculations. We all returned to our house 6 Kimberley Terrace & drank our good health -

25th January 1901 - To day King Edward VII was proclaimed King of England & Emperor of India in Yarmouth [41] I joined the members of the Corporation at 12 in a cleared space in front of the Town Hall standing quite close to the Mayors carriage. The Mayor Town Clerk in Robes & Wig (the Mayor in his gown & cocked hat) with Col

[41] Photograph of proclamation in Great Yarmouth

Aylmer representing the Army & Capt
Leslie RN, the Navy, were in the
Balcony with the Bellman, the
last named having proclaimed
silence the Mayor after a fanfair
of trumpets read the proclamation
& finished by calling for three cheers
for the King & one more for Queen
Alexandra, which were given with
the greatest enthusiam - a
procession was then formed I
following about sixth behind the
Mayor walking with Alderman
Saffling, to the market cross
where the cermony was repeated
& also at the church gates -
the mace & bare sword were
swathed in crape. Many
thousands of people watched
the proceedings, business & work
being temporarily suspended -
I saw Madeline close by in a
cab with our two boys Richard
& Robert, so in after life they
will both be able to say that they

were both present at King Edward
VIIs coronation - It was a clear
bright ~~Chris~~ winters day & everything
went off most satisfactorily -
We then met in the Council chamber
& the Mayor amid perfect silence
proposed a vote of condolence to
the King on the Queens death this
was seconded by the Deputy Mayor
Mr B.H. Press [42] & the unanimous
votes were taken standing up &
the members remained standing for
a few moments in perfect silence
to mark the great solemnity of
the occasion The Mayor (C S Orde) [43]
then proposed a vote of congratulations
to the King which being seconded
by the Senior Alderman G H Wiltshire [44]
was also unanimously carried
& we then all retired to the Mayors
Parlour to drink to the Kings health.

Saturday 9th February 1901 - Went over
to Norwich by the 12 train to attend
Provincial Grand Lodge of Craft
Masons to pass vote of condolence

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[42] Benjamin Howard Press - Press Brothers were a prominent local milling firm
[43] Charles Somerville Orde His mother was a Gurney and he and his father were bankers. In 1918 he was Chairman of Yarmouth silk milling firm of Grout
[44] Senior partner at Wiltshires solicitors of Great Yarmouth

with King Edward on death of the
Queen Victoria - a procession
was formed within anteroom &
I took my place as F.S.W
immediately in front of the Dy
P. G Master (H.S. Spark) The RW
P.Master moved, Deputy P.G M
seconded & the Bn rose in
silence instead of holding up
their R Hs - The Lodge was then
closed - Frank Benton & I went
& looked over the Castle Museum
& returned home by the 4 pm train.

March 7th 1901 -
12 noon was the time before which
nominations for the new Board
of Guardians had to be sent in
I did not allow myself to be
nominated - so my six years
connection with the Board will
terminate on the 25th instant

March 31 1901. Just filled up
our census paper which I shall
hand to the Enumerator tomorrow
It is endorsed "No 60 - Mr Ferrier.

6 Kimberley Terrace Great Yarmouth"
The following is a copy of my return.
1" Richard Frederick Ernest Ferrier , Head
of Family, Married, Male, 35 last
Birthday - Solicitor & Notary Public
Born Norfolk Gt Yarmouth
2, Madeline Lucy Ferrier , wife,
married, Female, 35 last birthday
Born London Kensington -
3, Richard Gournay Ferrier , son,
Single, Male, 4 years last birthday
Born Norfolk, Gt Yarmouth
4, Robert England Ferrier , son
single, Male, 1 year last birthday
Born Norfolk, Gt Yarmouth
5, Marguerite Nunn , Employee
single, Female, 25 last birthday
Lady nurse Born Hertfordshire,
Hertford -
6 Emma Louise Frost , Servant
single, Female, 31 last birthday
Cook (domestic) born Norfolk Pulham
7. Minnie Johnson , Servant, Single
Female 25 last birthday, Parlour-
-maid (Domestic) Born Norfolk
Billingford.

8- Ethel Elizabeth Witham , Servant
single, Female, 23 last birthday
Housemaid (Domestic) Born Norfolk
Pulham St.Mary
9. Harriett Patience Moore , Servant
single, Female, 18 last birthday
Nurse (Domestic) Born Norfolk
Ashby

18 May 1901 To day at 10.45 the members of the Corporation were summoned to meet the Mayor Mr Chas S. Orde to receive the Volunteers on their return from the War in South Africa.[45] A platform was erected in front of the town Hall The Mayor in robe & chain & cocked hat with the Mayoress & the Deputy Mayor & nearly all the members of the Corporation assembled on the platform, & dense crowds of people pressed round the space kept in front of the town Hall - The Volunteers accompanied by their battalion & the Artilley marched up to the space the

[45] Great Yarmouth Boer War medals

War section in Karkhi with Capt
Walter Diver in front being brought
in front of the Mayor who addressed
a speech of welcome to them - the Mayoress
then presented them with a silver
medal each & the Mayor informed
them that a vote of thanks had
been unanimously passed to the by
the Corporation & would be presented
to each one emblazoned on Vellum
& that a memorial tablet would be
placed in the town Hall inscribing
their names & services - I stood next
to H Chamberlin & Dr Ryley & quite
close to the Mayor & had a very good
view of the whole proceedings & heard
the Mayors speech quite clearly -
There is to be a dinner on Monday for the
Volunteers for which Bertie & I have
taken tickets - I recognised several
of the men & nodded welcome, - Owles
C.B. Diver, Frere, Harrison etc- [46]
They mostly looked very tanned &
rather good for nothing, but the latter
may be accounted for by the reception

[46] Photo of Yarmouth Volunteers (scroll down in link)

at Norwich & accompanying festivities.
Thursday 13th June 1901. Book Club
Dinner tonight, the Vicar The Revd
The Honble F.G. Pelham, [47] The Mayor
(CS Orde) J.A.H. Ferrier & Mr. H. Potts
unanimously elected members -
There were present A.C. Mayo [48](President)
Dr Ryley, A H Morson, R.Shaw, Rev[d]
Robt Cory, H.P. Frederick,[49] W.E. Wyllys
Rev[d] H Watson F T Waters (Secy)
& myself - I sat next to Wyllys on the
left & Shaw on the right -
Monday 17th June 1901 36 years old
today, Mother gave me a set of Ping
Pong game, Bertie 4 silver table
fern pots & Louie [50] some golf balls
Maud & Joe had previously given
me a splendid set of Chinese
postage stamps unused - feeling
rather seedy all day & up rather
late Office all day as usual, Ric
came up to the office with Granny
to wish me many happy returns.
Amy Miles is staying with us -

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[47] Reverend Francis Godolphin Pelham, 5th Earl of Chichester

[48] Alfred Charles Mayo, J.P, surgeon

[49] Of Burgh Castle. Partner at Worship, Rising and Frederick Solicitors at Great Yarmouth. Secretary of Breydon Wild Bird Protection Society until 1921.

[50] Louisa Jane Emma, Ferrier's sister

July 17th 1901 Wednesday Left this
morning by the 8.20 train for London
meeting G.H.L.Blake in the train
arrived there at 11.30 & after lunch
got to the Albert Hall about 3
to attend meeting of Grand Lodge &
see H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught
installed as Grand Master in succession
to the King - It was a splendid
sight nine thousand masons were
there, Blake & I had very good
seats in the tier to the right of the
G Master abutting on the centre amphi
theatre - Earl Amhurst the Pro Gr Master
opened the Gr Lodge, Earl Warwick the
deputy Gr master on his right, Lord
Templetown was S.W & Mr. Cornwallis
Jr Warden, - A deputation was formed
which went out to receive H.R.H. &
on his entrance he received a great
ovation, And the whole assembly
accompanied by the magnificent organ
sang God Save The King. Afterwards
The Duke took the obligation kneeling
in front of the throne & was then

installed as Grand Master by
Earl Amhurst - The Brethren then
saluted him as G.M. andf also the
GM of Scotland The Hon James Hozier
& the GM of Ireland The Duke of Abercorn
the two latter replied - The Duke
then read his address & confirmed
Grand honors on Ld Kitchener &
many eminent masons - It was
altogether a most imposing ceremonial
& one never to be forgotten - I
hurried off to M who was staying
with the Miles' at Roxburghe
Mansions Kensington Court & we
came home by the 7.15 train -
Friday 27 Septr 1901. At a meeting
of the Conservative members of the
Council held at the Club it was
decided in future that a private
meeting of the Conservative members
of the Council be held every
month to consider the agenda of
the forthcoming council meeting &
decide any party question - Mr. E.
W. Worlledge [51] was elected Chairman

[51] Edward William Worlledge twice mayor of Great Yarmouth

Mr N. Harrison V.Chairman & Mr.
R.F.E. Ferrier Hon Secretary.
1902 January 24 We today completed
the purchase of several houses on the
Marine Parade including Simpsons [52]
Cottage, Neptune Cottage etc etc upon
the site of which we intend to
erect an arcade of twenty shops [53]
the arcade to have entrances from
the Marine Parade & from Apsley
Road, it is to be a handsome
structure, we have already let
sixteen of the shops. We are paying
£3500 for the site & the arcade
will cost about £4500 & the
shops will provide about £900
per year -
1902 May 6 To day at 7.53 pm
our little baby girl arrived
nearly two months before her time
we had great anxiety about Madeline
& spent most of one night trying
to find up a nurse Wm Wyllys
helping me but we were not
successful. Mr W.E. Wyllys was

[52] 2015 newspaper article
[53] 2015 newspaper article (ctd)

present at the Birth and also
M's old monthly nurse E. Foot
I was there shortly afterwards &
the poor little baby is I am
afraid very delicate but shows
vitality - M progresses favourably
1902 July 12 To day we opened
the new Arcade & it meets with
most favourable notice. It is
a most handsome structure &
is splendidly built - The first
tenants, all of whom have taken
seven years leases are, Palmer
Bros, Johnson & Co, Davis's, Penate
Sennett, Bond, Hayden, Kellam
Chattern, Fuller, Bliss, Buck
Norton & Wixley - We have had
a lot of anxiety about the building
& a lot of trouble we only
trust that it may turn out
remunerative.
1902 July 28 Our little baby
girl who has progressed most
satisfactorily under the most
untiring care of M & the nurses

was christened today at 2pm at
St.Nicholas Church by Revd Harford
Battersley who performed the same
ceremony for both our boys
We have named her Judith
Madeline. Edith Bennett &
Mrs May Wyllys (Williams wife)
were godmothers & George Badeley
godfather, Mother Bertie Louie
myself Ric & Rob were also
present also Mrs & Miss Pinkey
Madeline held a reception after
& the baby was on view & we
drank her health -
1902 August & September, We spent a
very pleasant months holiday at
Brundall from the 26 August to the 30
Septr - We changed houses with a Mr.
Heslop (County Road Surveyor) he taking
our house 6 Kimberley Terrace & we his
called Bradestone Lodge - we much
admired the scenery round particularly
at Strumshaw & we think we should
much like to get a house there
Bertie spent a week with us there

& we did a good bit of cycling, M
seems in better health I am glad to
say -
1903 April 25 - Joe Badeley & Maud &
their boy & little Baby girl arrived
from Hong Kong for a years holiday
& for some months at least will
stay with mother at 28 Southtown
1903 May , During Maud & Joe's
absence in London their little baby
girl "Nancy" was taken most
seriously ill & we called in three
doctors Ryley, Mays & H Wyllys
who quite gave her up - However
she rallied & got quite well -
1903. May I was elected as one of
the 14 representatives of the Corporation
on the new Education authority which
in future will be responsible not
only for the Board Schools but also
the voluntary schools - Mr Worlledge is
the first chairman.
1903 - July August We exchanged
our house with that of Mr. Long
who lives at Covey House Thorp

St. Andrew n/r Norwich - We had
a fairly pleasant holiday there
except this being rather low down
& near the River it was relaxing.
Baby Judith however greatly benefited
by the change & made good progress
We had a small garden on either
side of the house where Ric & Rob
were able to play - It was a
good old house the rooms being
very conveniently placed - There was
a drawback in a tannery yard
immediately behind - We had
some nice cycle rides - A good
bit of our time was interestingly
engaged in discussing our new
idea of building another arcade
alongside our present one &
making an intercommunication
with it. It is a question whether
we shall be able to let all the
shops & we propose there shall be
30, but think in consequence of
the success of the present Arcade
there ought not to be very much

difficulty. The difficulty we
think will be the getting of
different trades -
Septr 3rd 1903 - M & I spent our
Wedding anniversary this year
at Coltishall taking two tiny
rooms in a tiny cottage belonging
to Miss Hunter on the bank of
the pretty river - we spent three
very happy days on the river
& became almost expert rowers.
October 8 1903 - I was elected
to take the 2nd principals chair
in Friendship Chapter.
I am glad to say we have let
all our shops in the new Arcade
amounting to £1130 - The total
cost is extimated to be £8500
so we shall do very well -
Octr 26 1903 - I have received
notice that I am elected without
opposition as a Councillor for
the St Georges Ward this will be
the beginning of my fourth term.
This will be the last time that

elections will take place under
the prevalent system of Wards
In future instead of six Wards
returning 6 councillors each
there will be 12 Wards returning
3 councillors, one each year,
each - I have been allocated
to the majority of my present
constituents & the Ward will
retain the name St George
so that I shall continue to
represent the Ward which
my family since the Reform Act
1832 have represented - my
colleague Mr D A. Johnson
is allocated to the rest of the
Ward & a part of the Nelson
Ward which will be called
St Peters -

12th September 1904 , Nearly another
year has flown since I made a
note in this book - Ric progresses
well at the Girls High School &
begins to write quite nicely, Rob
does not prosper physically as well

as we could wish, but is the merriest
little man one could meet, Baby
Judith gets on capitally & is strong
fat & gorgeous but altho 2 years and
3 months old she is too cautious
or lazy to walk without the
assistance of an arm or a chair
Our double Arcade which we
call the 'Marine' Arcade has
gone through the present summer
season satisfactorily & we hope
will become a thoroughly established
Visitors' shopping centre the whole
building cost is more than we
anticipated, amounting to about
£18,000 - & it produces about
£2000 a year - For a long time
we have been on the look out for
a nice suitable house in the
country but have never been able
to find what we wanted so Mr
Millington our town clerk my
tenant of Hemsby Cottage getting
another appointment & leaving this
district we decided to take over

his lease & on the 15th August
1904 we moved our first instalments
of furniture into the Cottage, we
have decided to try it for six
months arranging for the children
& nurse Margaret & Alice Watts
the nurse to have rooms for
nurseries at the Hollies - We
have also decided to negotiate
with Mrs Lofthouse [54] as to hiring
the Lodge & if we fail in there
& like being in Hemsby we shall
enlarge the Cottage to meet our
requirements - Madeline is completely
charmed with the Cottage & Hemsby
& almost hopes that we shall not
take the Lodge altho' the garden
there is very superior to the Cottage
garden - I have bought Cubits bit
of land adjoining my garden for £200
& this will of course greatly improve
my garden - After my first Sunday
Oakeley the Vicar secured me to
read the lessons for him at church
& I did so for the first time yesterday
September 11th 1904 -

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[54] Mrs Julia Diana Lofthouse of Shipdham Hall Norfolk was a daughter of George Richard Barker. In 1872 she married lawyer Bazett Haggard of that family from West Bradenham Hall (d.1899) and in 1900 married a lawyer, later judge, S.H.S Lofthouse. In 1891 she had inherited Hemsby estate from her father, who had changed his name from Copeman to inherit both Shipdham and Hemsby.

1904 Christmas Day - Ten tears today since I asked Madeline to be my wife & we have been married over nine years - How the years have sped & what happy years they have been. M is more & more charmed with country life - We have hired the Lodge [55] from Mrs Lofthouse & practically come to terms for a lease for five years - M is quite in love with the Lodge & especially with the garden - I give up my house No 6 Kimberley Terrace to day - we have been 6 years there & Rob & Judith were born in that house - I part with the house with rather a pang - However we are now settled at Hemsby where the Ferriers for very many generations have resided as country gentlemen. We have been welcomed most cordially by all the residents around and also by the villagers - In November I was unanimously elected Chairman of the Finance Committee of the

[55] Hemsby Lodge

Corporation, one of the most if not the most important committee, our business has during the year progressed quite satisfactorily & we have made many new clients & not lost any old ones. Mother & Bertie still occupy No 28 Southtown & lead a very quiet life. Louie & George (Badeley) [56] are at Wragby Vicarage near Wakefield & have a good living with a most generous squire & Patron in Lord St Oswald [57] - Maud & Joe (Badeley) are in Hong Kong & Joe is Capt of the Police there with probability of further success - To Day, we have had a splendid Xmas tree for the children, we had the tree cut down from the Lodge gardens & mounted in the centre of the dining room at the house at which the children are staying & which is now called the "Hollies" [58] but which is the old "Hemsby House" that the Ferriers resided in as their country house for centuries, the dining room occupied by the children is the ground floor room on the ~~left~~ right as you enter

[56] Later Master of Archbishop Holgate Hospital, Herasworth until death in 1937.
[57] Rowland Winn, 2nd Baron St Oswald
[58] Now known as Home Farm house, as confirmed by current owner who was born there (personal communication)

the front door that is the South
East room. Had no doubt in this
room our great grandfather & his
small children spent their Xmas
1804 - our christmas tree was
resplendent with lighted candles &
tiny chinese lanterns & crammed with
presents - the Vicar Bagnall Oakeley
& Mrs Oakeley dined with us and the
children at 1.30 - & at 3.30 we
adjourned for the tree where there
were also Mrs Daniel & her two daughters
(who have hired the Vicarage) - Mr & Mrs
Bagnall Oakeley, Mr Wm & Mrs Wm
Wyllys who are staying with us at
the cottage - Marshall the Head Gardener
at the Hall who has been helping us
with our garden, accompanied with a
number of small children & Harbord
our gardener accompanied with several
of his small children - there were also
our maids (4) & Farmer Kettle from
whom we hire the childrens rooms -
We commenced the proceedings by singing
"Hark the Herald Angels Sing" & then

I proceeded to distribute the presents
those present having to answer to their
numbers which were marked on the
presents - We wound up the proceedings
with "God Save the King" unfortunately
we couldn't get the snap dragon to
light. Baby Judith was very good
& enjoyed the entertainment.

August 13th 1905 Just another
eight months has sped away -
We have been in occupation of the
Lodge for seven months having
moved in on the 13th January last
We consider ourselves most fortunate
in having such a charming home,
a well built convenient house with
one of the prettiest old fashioned
gardens we have ever seen & certainly
no garden in the neighbourhood is
to be compared with it. The house
stands about 300 yards down the
private road opposite the front
of the Cottage & just past the
post office. It stands with its
back on the road towards the North

with no windows. The front of
the house is approached from
the road by large gates & overlooks
the front garden - The lawns &
gardens are to the South & West
into which the Dining room,
drawing room, our bedroom &
the dressing room (M's boudoir) &
the spareroom overlook - two
small morning rooms the night
nursery & my dressing room are
in the front of the house - there
are also good servants rooms
Bachelor's room, bath room
Ric's room, nurse Margants room
& a splendid, large, day nursery
& Bathroom etc - The garden consists
of a large lawn all round
the South & West of the house
& extending to the South boundary
between us & the Hall gardens
with beds of flowers all round
& rose beds here & there - Further
to the South over a charming
border of herbaceous plants is

a large croquet lawn surrounded
by handsome trees & a shady walk
& still further West & South West
are a seed garden, a good orchard
& a splendid kitchen garden -
We have also stables etc to the
North West. We laid the
croquet lawn ourselves over what
was previously a kind of woody
plantation, We have one man
who does the garden & the rough
housework & also looks after the
childrens donkey & cart - All the
nice people round have been
very kind to us - Ric has passed
his first term at a boys boarding
preparatory school - We were
recommended to it by Mrs Horace
Potts who knew the Barnard Smith
boys who go there - & M went over
& saw it with me - Mr R. Phillips
South Lodge Lowestoft [59] it is rather
an expensive school but they
seem a nice set of boys there
& we decided upon it -

[59] A Listed Building, in the 1920s it was the school of the young Benjamin Britten

Ric got on very well generally but
did not make much progress
with his books the first term as
I could not discover that he
knew any more arithmetic or Latin
at the end of the term than he
did before - but we were quite
satisfied with his progress in
boyish ways - little Judith we
were grieved to find did not
walk properly with her right
leg directly she began to use it
so we had her examined by the
Wyllys' who recommended that
we should take her to see
the most eminent nerve specialist
& after enquiry we decided upon
Dr Risian Russell [60] & M took her
to London (Harley St) & he made
a thorough exam & suggested
massage & afterwards electricity
his opinion did not promise
that the leg would become
absolutely normal altho' nearly
so & so M thought she would

[60] James Samuel Risien Russell FRCP

have another opinion & so took
Judith to Sir Victor Horsley [61] the
leading nerve surgeon - who
thought that the same treatment
should be given but considered
that the leg would become practically
normal - We have had a masseuse
down for a fortnight a Nurse
Powell who carried out the massage
& taught M & nurse M exactly
how to do it & we hope the
leg will soon improve - other
business has continued to improve
& we have obtained a new good
client in Mr Chas N. Brown [62] a
lumber merchant who has brought
with him a large number of builders
& quantities of conveyances & mortgages
The two arcades continue to prosper
& produce gross rentals of about
£2100 - We have £14000 mortgage
upon them but have arranged
with Mr. Norford Suffling [63] to take
a ground rent of £425 upon the
arcades for £10000 & we shall

[61] Sir Victor Alexander Haden Horsley FRS FRCS
[62] Likely of Palgrave, Brown & Sons Ltd
[63] A local family of fish merchants, auctioneers, yacht sailors

discharge the mortgage & with
money we have it will leave
only £2000 or £3000 in
debt on the arcades. & after
paying the £425 it will leave
us a net income of about
£1700 from the arcades so we
can soon clear off our debt
to the Bank who hold as security
the deeds of the arcades subject to
the GR. If it goes on satisfactorily
it will turn out a magnificent
investment for us - We have also
purchased two small building
estates at Cobholm Island one
the "Green Cap Mill estate" [64] in
partnership with Mr Wyllys &
the Cobholm Recreation estate
of Lord Lichfield in partnership
with Mr C N Brown who will
finance the builders - Rob is
a regular boy & by his winning
ways attracts everybody -
Madeline is very happy in the
country & never goes to Yarmouth

[64] History of Green Cap mill

unless compelled for shopping -
I go into Yarmouth every day
by the 8.53 train & generally try
& get back by the 5.10 train in time
for tea - my fellow travellers
are Mr. J.A. Rising, Mr H.W.
Youell,[65] Mr Lovewell Blake [66] &
Arthur Rising - We dine at 7.30
& generally M & I spend all our
time in the garden before dinner
& stroll out after dinner -
she is most interested in the
garden - we are able to get
on quite comfortably with a
reduced staff of servants & have
only now Cook & housemaid &
a man & of course Nurse Margant
& a woman comes every day
(our gardeners wife) to do Nurse
M's rough work - Bertie has
hired the Cottage of me & has
furnished it so that he can come
over for week ends - We are
having a perfect summer & the harvest
is already nearly over -

[65] Herbert Willoughby Youell
[66] Chartered accountant, the firm bearing his name continues

31st December 1905 Have just heard that the Mayor Mr Robert Nudd died rather suddenly last night - I am very sorry to lose him he has been a most useful man to the town & most kind & friendly to me personally - we are getting quite settled as inhabitants of Hemsby - I always read the lessons at Church, Was appointed Vicar's churchwarden at the Easter Vestry meeting & am also one of the Hemsby school managers - Mr K. Bagnall Oakeley is the Vicar & is a good fellow altho rather easy going & a capital golfer Mrs Hume [67] who was well acquainted with my great grandmother Mrs Betsy Ferrier who died in 1845 & all my aunts & who lives at the Hill House Winterton has been very kind & hospitable to us & Madeline is very fond of her - little Judith's leg does not seem worse I am glad to say, she is massaged

[67] Noted here

night & morning - little Rob is a
pickle as he promised but he shows
indications of plenty of solid brain
Ric has got on at school better
the second term & took second place
in his class - M has arranged for
Hemsby to be divided into districts
& has taken one of them herself as
a District Visitor [68] - We are friendly
with the Scrimgeours [69] at Hemsby Hall
& also with the Daniels [70] at the Vicarage [71]
& M has been invited to join the
monthly working party by Mrs
Worslop which is supposed to be
an honor - our business has been
better the past year & is becoming
practically entirely conveyancing.
I have had deputations for two
years pressing me to take the Mayoralty
but on a/c of Ms health & want of
surplus funds I have refused - I
am very anxious not to undertake
the burdens of that office -
We got through satisfactorily with
the sale of the ground rent on the

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[68] A woman worker in a Church of England parish who gives voluntary assistance to the rector (as by visiting and reporting cases of sickness)

[69] Lessees of Hemsby Hall. Partner at J & A Scrimgeour, stockbrokers. Main residence Parkfield, Highgate, London

[70] The family now (2024) at Home Farm Hemsby?

[71] Perhaps the old vicarage across the road from the church; there was a newer one just south of the church

arcades for £425 to Mr N Suffling
for £10,000 & discharged both
mortgages amounting to £14000
borrowing about £3000 to enable
us to do so from the Nat Prov [72]
Bank - When we have discharged
this sum & if the shops continue
to be let we shall derive at least
£1550 between us a year from this
investment - We have also agreed
to purchase another valuable site
on the front of the drive now
occupied by Paul Palmers house &
garden (South Beach Lodge) [73] for £3000
& this being the same size as either
of the arcade sites we think in the
course of a few years will be very
valuable - our building estates have
developed satisfactorily & they produce
plenty of conveyancing work & gives
us a good profit on the sale of the
sites - I have enfranchised Hemsby
Cottage & the adjoining land which
was copyhold [74] - Mother continues in
very good health. & Louie & George &

[72] National Provincial Bank - merged with the Westminster in 1970 to form what is now NatWest
[73] Later the site of the Gem cinema - see below
[74] Copyhold - enfranchised means converted to freehold, usually involving payment

Maud & Joe are all flourishing -
I am still chairman of the Finance
Committee of the Corporation the work
of my committee being very important
controlling as it does the spending
powers of all the other committees -
I shall hold the Secretaryship of
the Hospital & of the Girls High School [75]
Miss E.R. Diver has retired from
the position of Matron of the Hospital
& Miss Mary Bemrose formerly Matron
of Ebbwr Vale Hospital has taken
her place - We have passed through
quiet times here but disturbed by
the terrible reports of the revolution
in Russia [76] - The unemployed question
in the large industrial centres of
England has become somewhat
acute - Mr Balfours ministry
resigned about a month since
Mr H.G. Bannerman has formed a
Liberal ministry & goes to the country
on the Fiscal question in about
3 weeks - My grandfathers second
wife died in London early this

[75] On 17th January 1893 the Great Yarmouth Girls' High School was opened at 147 King Street, immediately opposite St George's Church. The boys' Grammar School started in 1552.

[76] Russian Revolution of 1905

month & by her death £750 of
my grandfathers money comes to
our family - Bertie & mother still
live at 28 Southtown & I lunch
there every day.

18th September 1906
Nearly 9 months have passed
since I made my last note.
Nothing of any very great
importance has happened to us.
The Mayor of Yarmouth died
early in the year & was buried
with great pomp & ceremony
he Mr Robert Nudd was the first
Mayor for over 30 years who
had died in office - We in conjunction
with Mr Chas N Brown, who was
elected Mayor upon the death of
Mr R Nudd, have formed a small
company called the West Town Building
Estate Limited to take over the building
estate on Cobholm Island & we have
negotiated for the the purchase from
the Earl of Lichfield of 12½ acres
further land to the West which we

hope will become valuable building
land in a few years & be either to
us or to our children very remunerative.
Since I made my last note we
have passed through the excitement
of an election petition lodged by Mr
Martin White [77] the defeated Liberal
candidate against Mr A. Fell the
sitting Conservative member - It
was heard by Mr Justice Grantham
& Mr Justice Channel & after several
days hearing the judges disagreed
Mr J Grantham being in favour of
the sitting member & so the latter
retained his seat [78] - I continue
to act as churchwarden & read the
lessons at church - We have had
a new organ placed in our church
concerning the situation of which there
was some little disagreement
among the villagers. At the end of
last year we formed the "Yarmouth
& Gorleston Investment & Building Company
Limited" to deal in land & houses
& we hold at present most of the

[77] Martin White

[78] Grantham, a former Conservative MP, was regarded as partisan in this, the matter being later debated in Parliament.

shares - We believe with very close attention & hard work that it should one day become a thriving & prosperous concern - We are also at the suggestion of Mr R.H. Inglis Palgrave [79] about to form a company to be called the Gt Yarmouth & District Historical Properties Company Limited for the purpose of acquiring & preserving all houses of Archaeolgical & historical interest & to begin with the purchase of the Grey Friars Cloisters.[80] The Properties Committee met at the cemetery on the 16 March 06 & started an avenue of trees at the East gate I planted the second tree on the left or South side - Bertie has let the Cottage furnished to Mr & Mrs Fletcher-Taylor for six months. M & I had a delightful holiday for three weeks at Teignmouth in South Devon & much enjoyed it We kept a journal which is fully illustrated with pictorial postcards we went several times to Torquay -

[79] R H I Palgrave
[80] Greyfriars

& visited Exeter, the moors & cycled
round the district especially admiring
Babbacombe Bay & Ansty's cove -
We had also a most delightful
fortnights holiday in August on the
Norfolk rivers & broads in the wherry
Violet - Douglas & his fiancé Hannah
Willock & Maud Bennett & Ric
with ourselves formed our party.
We bathed every day & spent the
whole time enjoying ourselves in the
fresh open air - We kept a full
journal which we illustrated -
We also had a further four days
holiday in the wherry Arcadia from
Septr 3rd to 7th which we much enjoyed.
I am still a member of the Town
Council & chairman of the Finance
Committee but my term as a councillor
expires on November 1st '06 & of course
I do not know if I shall be re elected.
I attended with the Mayor on behalf
of the Corporation in London to
oppose before the House of Commons
Committee the bill promoted by the

Water Works Compy for power to obtain
a further water supply for Yarmouth
& Lowestoft from the River Bure - I felt
that, having regard to the advice of the
eminent men we had consulted, it
would not be a safe supply & after
seven days very careful enquiry the
H.of C. committee dismissed the bill. [81]
I have not this year taken so active
a part in Masonry but the Provincial
Grand Chapter have honoured me by
conferring upon me the rank of
Prov Grand Registrar - Ric makes
good progress at Mr Phillips school
in Latin but cannot get on in
arithmetic - Rob who is not yet
7 has made no progress whatsoever
in "book learning" his godfather John
Miles has promised to get him a
nomination for the Navy so I hope
there will be another Capt Robert
Ferrier RN after 150 years - since
the last one - Judith's leg is no
worse we think & hope it is better.
Our garden at the Lodge is very

[81] A Bill was however passed in 1907 which did permit such extraction from the River Bure.

pretty & we are all still much
in love with our country home -

Saturday 6th October 1906 To day
I was for the third year in succession
offered the Mayoralty - The Mayor
Mr G.N. Brown and Mr E.W. Worlledge
as the Senior Alderman sent the Town
Clerk to me with a request that I
should allow them to attend me at
my office or that I should see them
in the Town Hall - I at once attended
with the Town Clerk to the Town Hall
& the Mayor informed me that as
was usual the past Mayors had
held a meeting & it had been
unanimously resolved that I should
be invited to be Mayor for the
ensuing year - He & Mr Worlledge
said many kind things about me
& that as the Church Congress would
be held in Yarmouth this year they
desired to obtain a Mayor who would
preside with becoming dignity etc etc
at that important function. Mr
Brown said no member of the Council

would receive a more cordial
welcome or more loyal support
from the Liberal party than I should.
I thanked them both for the honour
that had been done me but that
I had very carefully considered the
matter & that at the present time it
was impossible for me to accept
the Mayoralty - Madeline & I
went to Lowestoft & saw Ric &
heard that he has commenced reading
Ovid & Eutropius , has begun Greek
& also Algebra & Euclid - I think
this is very fair for a boy only
nine & a half -

1st November 1906 - Returned unopposed
for the Council as a member for the
St Georges Ward. This is the fifth
time I have been returned & begin my
13th year of service - The Liberal party
passed a resolution that I was not
to be opposed - E.W. Worlledge has
consented to take the Mayoralty.

5th April 1907 Mr Charles Diver
Solicitor whom I have known all my
life died the other day & the post
of Clerk to the Yarmouth Mayoralty
thus becomes vacant - The Mayor (E.W.
Worlledge) has formed the opinion that
his partner George Preston should be
appointed in his place the latter
having promised the Mayor that he will
thus secure an allowance to the Diver
family - The Mayor without considering
the merits of any other candidates or
whether any other would be willing
to fall in with a similar suggestion
respecting the Diver family persuaded
a majority of the magistrates to agree
with him & Preston was duly appointed
today & the salary is £700 - H. Chamberlin
saw me afterwards & is highly indignant
at the Mayors conduct as all the
arguments with regard to helping the
Diver family would be accentuated in
his being appointed as he is a nephew
& being Leader of the Conservative party
& a man of large public service

ought on his merits to have been considered long before Preston - Chamberlin threatens to resign the leadership of the party.

October 5th 1907 We have just finished a most successful Church Congress.[82] At the beginning of the year the Vicar Canon Willink [83] with whom I have become very friendly asked me to accompany him & the Mayor E.W. Worlledge to Norwich to attend a meeting of the Bishop & leading clergy to decide about holding the Church Congress this year at Great Yarmouth. We went & it was decided to do so - The Vicar then asked me to act as one of the lay Hon Secretaries, he & his senior assistant W.T. Goodrich acting as clerical Hon Secies - I suggested H. P. Frederick as the other Hon Secy and subsequently we attended another meeting at Norwich & were duly appointed on the nomination of the Bishop.

[82] Church Congress
[83] Canon John W. Willink

Ever since that time we have been
constantly engaged in holding meetings
& carrying out arrangements & these
have culminated in the most
successful congress of late years
I have been considered a very
important person in connection with
the congress altho my work has been
very small compared with that of
the Vicar & Canon De Chair [84]the
formal Hon Secretary. My portrait
has appeared in many papers all
over the country - The Archbishop
of Canterbury (Randall Davidson)
stayed for the first two days &
the Bishop of Norwich introduced
me to him & he shook hands very
kindly & said it was most good
of me to do all this work. I was
also introduced to the Bishop
of Lincoln, Bishop of Thetford, Bishop
of Ipswich the Bishop of Manchester
& many other church dignitaries -
I was invited to luncheon by the
Mayor & those present included

[84] F. Blackett De Chair, former Rector of Spixworth, Wymondham, Blakeney and Morley

the Archbishop & 22 Bishops many
deans & Archdeacons & the Lord Lieutenant
the Lord High Steward, the Sheriff of
Norfolk etc - The Vicar tried to per-
suade me to let Ric be the
Archbishop's page but I did not
like to disturb his new school
life - Ric & Rob recently went
to Mr Nettleton's school at Folkestone
strongly recommended by Mr John
Miles - We found it rather a
wrench to part with Rob who
is only seven and a half but the
break was made & we have
had most amusing letters from him
expressive of entire satisfaction.
On the approach of the 9th of
November I am very worried
at the pressure that I know
will be brought to bear upon
me to accept the Mayoralty
but Madeline is determined
that I shall get out of it
some how - Maud Badeley
came home from Hong Kong

in April & Joe joins her tomorrow.
Our business has not been very
flourishing the last 6 months &
we have not done anything with
South Beach Lodge which we
bought as a speculation -

November 1907 Madeline has been
spending a week with Mr Joyce & Violet
at "Woodknowle" Mayfield, they both
having expressed a strong wish that she
should do so & take Judith with her
which she did. Afterwards Judith
came back & M stayed in London
for a week longer with the Miles'
at 8 Roxburghe Mansions, Kensington
Court. M went to Folkestone on
the 23rd to see the boys & stayed the
night. She particularly wanted to find
out what was in Mr Nettleton's mind
when he reported that "Ric would have
to import much more energy into
his work to get up to anything like
scholarship form " - I do not think I noted
that after consulting for the last four
years the leading orthopaedic & nerve

specialists in London about Judiths leg we
were advised to have an operation performed
by Sir Victor Horsley but in consequence of the
inconvenience & expense of arranging for Judith
& her mother to go into a nursing home
in London it was decided, although
the fee for the operation would probably
larger to have it done in our own
house at Hemsby - We arranged for Dr
Hamilton Ballance [85] of Norwich to come
over & perform the operation which con-
sisted of cutting & lengthening the
tendons of the right foot so that the
foot, which is turned quite round inside
& was a complete deformity, could
be pulled round towards its normal
position. The fee was £36-15- 0 &
£2-2/- each for many visits to Dr
Ballance befor & since - William
Wyllys helped & Merryweather the
other partner administered the anaesthetic
Judith was an hour under chlorophorm
but the report after the operation was
that it was quite successful - On
Novr 20 we received her first pair of

[85] Ballance, Sir Hamilton Ashley (1867 - 1936)

surgical boots designed by Ballance
& manufactured by Ernst -

11 July 1908 Eight months have flown
by since I made my last entry, we
have both passed our 43rd birthdays.
The boys are getting on satisfactorily
at Mr Nettletons school Feltonfleet
Folkestone - Judith's leg is very greatly
improved, the operation was certainly
most successful - Early in the year
we decided to erect upon the site of
South Beach Lodge a Hall [86] which we
had previously let to two men named
Richards & Cochran for £900 a year for
amusement purposes - this tenancy was
ultimately converted into a lease for
21 years in favour of a private syndicate
a company called the Great Yarmouth
Amusement Centre Limited formed by
Amory Parks & Macklin Solrs 18 Fleet St London
The Hall was erected at a cost of about
£4700 under the direction of A.S. Hewitt
architect, & was completed by the 1 July
1908. Cochran is the manager & is running
a living picture show & up to the present

[86] The site of "The Gem", later the Windmill cinema, now a Listed Building- further references below.

has been most successful, it was opened on the 4th July - The Mayor & Corporation & chief people receiving invitations to be present. The whole cost including the site is about £8000 & if therefore the tenants are successful this will give us a rental return of over £10% -
We have been very "gay" this season having received invitations from most of the surrounding people & have given a very successful garden party ourselves -
Having lived 2 years at the Priory Gorleston [87] Mother & Bertie have come to the conclusion that it is too inconvenient, that Bertie never sees the garden except for the few evenings that are light after 8 pm & that therefore the great expense in keeping up the garden is not of any use & mother doesn't care about the garden - They have therefore decided to give up the Priory & take St Georges Gate which is very centrally situate at the corner of Alexandra Rd & Trafalgar Rd & will be most convenient for us - especially to get lunch. Madeline seems in very much better health & on two or three

[87] House since demolished - gardens bequeathed to the town

occasions we have cycled 30 to 40 miles a
day, two days running - She is still
enraptured with the garden & everybody says
it is greatly improved & that our roses are
splendid specimens - We this month paid
a four days visit to Mrs Miles at No 8
Roxburghe Mansions Kensington Court
& very much enjoyed it - I saw more of the
London Parks during this short visit
than I had ever done before & very much
enjoyed their beauty the trees & the flowers
were taller than in any private estate
We spent the best part of two days at the
Franco-British Exhibition [88] at Shepherds Bush
a most truly wonderful show ! - We also had
a most interesting experience in an At Home
at the Deanery Westminster - Mrs Miles is a
cousin of Armitage Robinson the Dean [89]
& having received an invitation from the Dean
got permission to take us - The Archbishop of York
& many bishops & high church dignitaries were
there including many notable people in the
political & social world there were some
black bishops there who had come to London
for the Pan Anglican congress [90] We were allowed

[88] Franco-British Exhibition
[89] Armitage Robinson
[90] Pan-Anglican Congress

to wander over the Deanery which we did
& admired the Jerusalem Chamber [91] & went
into the deans pew which was entered
from the house & from which a good view
of the Abbey by moonlight was obtained
We also got on the roof & obtained a view
of Whitehall - such a contrast, the medi-
aeval state of the Deanery & the hurly burly
at a short distance -

7th October 1908 We have made the ac-
quaintance of the new Rector of Burgh
Castle who succeeded Canon Venables [92]
last year & today we accepted an
invitation to dine & spend the night
with them at the Rectory. Mr Dahl [93]
(the Rector) drove Madeline & me over
at 4.30 & after tea we explored the
house & gardens.[94] I had seen neither for
20 years, my grandfather the Revd T.H.
Hawes [95] the Rector before Mr Venables having
died in 1888 or 1889. The house of course
was the same except for the modern
furniture & the study which was approached
thro' the dining room & used as a lumber

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[91] Jerusalem Chamber
[92] Canon Venables incumbent 1888 to 1906
[93] Rev. Louis Harold Dahl - also here
[94] Now a listed building
[95] Rev Thomas Henry Hawes, Rector of Burgh Castle Suffolk 1853-86

or store room having been however completely altered, it has been carved out beyond the far gable of the house & an opening made in the trees giving a most delightful view to the river - The garden seems very much as it was 20 years ago but I noticed the trees at the corner of the house near the front door & at the far corner near the copper beech have been removed. The "look out" over the river is the same & the other parts of the garden - Mr Dahl is a pleasant man & wrapped up very much in antiquarian matters & hopes to write a history of Burgh Castle. [96] M & I slept in the old spare room over the drawing room - How the rooms & garden take me back to my earlier life, when I was about 20 & used to go over every week end to help grandfather, read the lessons etc etc - It vividly brings back the Armstrongs, Strides, Joyce, Hargreave Harrison, Jackson, the Clarks, & the interminable squabble about the schools - all the old people are gone The Harrisons house is occupied by people

[96] 'The Roman Camp and the Irish Saint at Burgh Castle' by Louis H. Dahl (1913)

named Primrose - the Jacksons house
by the Becks - the Joyce's by Garner
the baker of Broad Row - Old Bullock
the Clerk is still alive but the work
is carried out by his son -

8th November 1908 To day we have made
a change of some importance in Judith's
life - ever since her birth she has been
looked after & had as her constant nurse
& companion Miss M. Nunn & some time
since it was found advisable to substitute
for her some lady in the nature of a
governess & companion & today the change
has been made - Miss Nunn left by the
early train & Miss Minnie Rising of
Martham a relation of J.A. Rising of
Ormsby has taken her place - Madeline
has known Miss Rising for some years
& we think she is eminently suited
by her quiet ladylike manner to
be with Judith -

During the last month I have been
very strongly pressed again to take the
Mayoralty & in addition to several
letters & calls from the deputy Mayor

(Mr Worlledge) received a letter from
the Town Clerk conveying a unanimous
request from the council in committee
that I would allow myself to be nominated
It was with great difficulty that I
refused; but the many heavy bits of
business now in progress combined with
a dislike to public dinners & an inability
to be out at night during the winter from
susceptibility to catch bronchial colds but
above all the intense dislike of Madeline
to take office compelled me to refuse
and in sheer desperation a volunteer was
invited from all the members of the council
with a hint that it would be a matter
of public dicredit to the conservative
party if one was not forthcoming, this
resulted in C.A. Campling a young
member having the temerity to offer his
services - which were of course accepted -
He is a stationer & laundry owner & I
fear will be thought, in point of social
position, to be hardly suitable, by the town's
people generally - personally I much admire
his public spirit & courage -

24 May 1909 - To day E.V. Barr an electric engineer, whom I had known for many years opened the 'Gem' [97] as an Electric Theatre - He is retiring from his business as an Engineer to devote himself to the business of the 'Gem' & I trust he will have a most successful career - We are finding all the capital to enable him to take a lease & are to be paid as interest a portion of the profits - the rent is to be £400 a year - the amount we actually received from Cochran our late tenant whose lease we terminated through failure on his part to fulfil his obligations - We have much hope for the success of Barr & for our mutual benefit -

June 23 1909 To day we had a most successful garden party at which we had archery in our field in the front of our house which we managed to arrange with Kettle the farmer to allow us to hire - Also croquet, golf putting & other games - The Mayor of Norwich [98] came over. Mrs Worslip. The Scrimgeours. Briansons Gilmours - Hackers - Holleys - Blakes (Dr) & very many others - The gardens were very much admired

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[97] Ernest Valentine Barr - more here

[98] Walter Rye (1843-1929), solicitor and antiquary, author of 'Some Historical Essays Chiefly Relating to Norfolk'.

9th July 1909 Heard from Mrs Lofthouse's agent Mr Hornor [99] that Mrs Lofthouse will give us a further lease of Hemsby Lodge for 8 years from Michaelmas 1909 - so we are fixed here for that period - We have very greatly improved the garden, particularly in cutting down the fence to our new field & throwing the latter into our garden which in addition to giving us 2½ acres more ground pours quantities of extra light & air into our garden -

17th July 1909 Spent a very interesting day with the Dickensian Fellowship [100] - I had recently joined this society which is formed by lovers of Dickens works Dr Bateley [101] & I joined the Society at Lowestoft & were driven in a large waggonnette to Blundeston Rectory [102] which we inspected & were told was the "Rookery" where David Copperfield was born & spent his early years - this was proved by references to the church which could be seen from this house - We then visited the church where Dr Bateley read a paper. Afterwards adjourning to The Plough we had lunch & drove to Yarmouth the route taken by

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99 Francis Hornor, land agents
100 The Dickens Fellowship
101 Dr John Bateley (1843-1911) of Southtown
102 The Rectory, Blundeston

'Barkis' the carrier stopping on the lower road from Gorleston to Southtown where Dr Bateley read a paper showing the site & particulars of Peggoty's Hut - Proceeding to Yarmouth we stopped & looked at 'The Dukes Head where Dickens is supposed to have found the accommodating waiter The party were, as to many of them, very amusing & interesting but generally a funny mixture - It was a novel & interesting experience - A Mr Matz is the Secretary [103] & Mr Dexter the Treasurer -

August 18th to Septr 1st 1909.
Madeline & I spent a very pleasant fortnight with Mrs Miles & Amy & Letty at the "Sycamores" a nice house at Brimscombe on the top of Amberley Common about half a mile where we stayed with them 2 years ago (Rose Cottage) - We golfed nearly every day I making some progress with the assistance of a caddy named Webb - We met the Gore-Browns, Rickards, Parkes, Brodys when we went to a whist drive, & also met George Holt & his wife & Mr Hope - We were also introduced to Miss Piers Legh [104] the

[103] B. W. Matz (1865—1925)
[104] Alice Blanche Legh

Champion Archer. We saw Lord Collins
who is staying in the district & called upon
the Torneys & met Canon St.John [105] - a very
amusing old man who just escaped
being a peer by the production of a son &
heir at the funeral of the peer his ancestor -
Mrs Miles was most kind & hospitable
as were the girls - We left them on the 1st
Septr & went on
September 1st 1909 To Oxford & stayed
at the East Gate Hotel [106] & inspected the
Town & University - We went over Radley
School [107] being very politely ciceroned [108] by the
School Butler [109] Mr Carver - & afterwards
saw Mr Wharton the precentor [110]- We think
the school would be suitable for Ric
& it is strongly recommended by Mr
Nettleton his schoolmaster & Mr J.C.
Miles who should be an authority from his
knowledge of boys who go up to the
University from the various schools -
on the 3rd Septr - the ~~13~~ 14th anniversary
of our weddding day we started off
on the steamer "Lorimer" & went
down the Thames to Henley where we

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[105] Reverend Canon Maurice William Ferdinand St.John (1827-1914)
[106] Eastgate Hotel
[107] Radley College is a public school, founded in 1847.
[108] Cicerone - an old term for a guide who conducts visitors
[109] The school was run as a gentlemen's country house with footmen, and a butler performing all the usual duties of a senior servant. Being shown around by the butler would be standard, according to Radley's archivist (personal communication)
[110] Director of music - George Wharton arrived at Radley in 1862 and continued as Precentor until 1914.

spent the night at the Red Lion
a most luxurious & moderately
priced Hotel - & left there for town
at 11 arriving back to Hemsby at 5.30

September 17th 1909 Ric & Rob
return to Mr Nettletons school to
day for their sixth term there - Ric
is now over twelve & a half & is good
at Classics - particularly so at turning
English into Latin Verse & Lat prose
He is 'doing' Virgil - Ovid Cicero &
Caesar - In English he is also above
the average having read nearly all
of Scotts novels - most of the plays of
Shakespeare - & some of Tennyson - besides
many lighter books - In mathematics
he is very moderate he has struggled thru
2 books of Euclid with not very permanent
effect & got as far as quadratic equations
in Algebra - & the ordinary arithmetic I
should have much liked him to have got
a scholarship for Winchester or Eton but
am bound to come to the conclusion that
he is not quite up to them - I have too
constantly I fear pressed upon him the

incalculable advantage of working hard
for the next few years - but he does
not or cannot appreciate my earnestness
I suppose no boy can at his age & so
he gives way to a great extent to his
natural bent & shirks work as much
as he can - When I really insist upon
it & make him do some work he
accepts the inevitable & takes some
interest in it but it is an effort on
my part to carry it thro' - Rob
is only 9½ so I don't worry about
him yet - he is well up in elementary
subjects & rather likes the work or in
order to please me he of his own
accord frequently brings me his Latin
books or algebra & asks me questions
about them. I much hope we shall
get him into the Navy a pleasant
healthy life for him altho I shall
hate the idea of seeing so little of
him when once he has started. We
shall indeed miss his happy sunny
ways - Judith is 7½ & is becoming
quite a little lady & promises to be

a pretty one too - Her pretty golden
hair big dark blue eyes & long dark
eyelashes are an attractive combination
while her soft pretty ways make her
very loveable - Her leg is hardly
noticeable which is due not only to
the operation but the continuous
massage she has had night & morning
without omission. She has lately started
a bicycle & gets on well -

October 2cnd to Nov 11 1909 . On the 2cnd Octr
we went to stay with mother for as we
imagined for a week but two or three days
after we left there Judith developed whooping
cough & had a very bad time indeed - We also
heard that Ric & Rob had it & Joe had caught
it & several other boys at school. We were
for some time at a loss to know where they
caught it but found out that Mrs Green
of Winterton had sent her little girl who had
a bad cold to our children's party showed
signs of whooping cough three days afterwards
& unfortunately she did not let us know to
avoid sending the boys back to school -

Poor little Judith had a bad time her
paroxysms of coughing almost choking her &
it has brought her general health down to
a very low ebb - but now we have her back
in her own surroundings we shall I hope
soon get her quite well - On Novr 9th
Mr J.W. Swindell Manager at Barclays
Bank was made Mayor & he asked me
to second his nomination which I did
on the 10th we held the ordinary business
of the Council & I made a final effort
to persuade the Council to agree to apply
for power to consolidate the collection of the
rates & thus save a very large amount of
unnecessary expense - I went very fully
into the subject & ultimately carried it by
21 votes to 20 - several of the Councillors
congratulated me on my speech -
We received intelligence from Louie early
in November that George had pneumonia
& this was followed by double pneumonia
then pleurisy. He seemed to improve
very rapidly & in about a week he was
out of danger - Our lease of the Lodge
expired on October 11 & we had agreed

with Hornor to take a further lease
for 8 years & I prepared & sent the
necessary documents to him for the
purpose but about a month afterwards
he wrote & said that Mrs Lofthouse wd
only agree to a lease up to July
1913 when the Hall lease expired -
It was very disappointing but I thought
it best to agree & trust that something
may happen to enable us to be settled.

14 January 1910 To day Sir Inglis Palgrave
asked me to call at Barclays Bank & when
I arrived he most kindly & heartily congratulated
me on having been elected as F.S.A. at the
meeting of the Society of Antiquaries last night
Sir Inglis has been most kind in interesting
himself in this matter & many kind friends
supported me. My certificate of application was
signed by Revd William Hudson F.S.A., Mr John
Tingey F.S.A., Dr Bensley LLD FSA, Revd E.E. Hopper
F.S.A. & Mr Hamon L'estrange F.S.A. in the
column requiring signatures of those personally
acquainted with me & my antiquarian work
& in the column containing signatures of those
acquainted with my work were Dr Jessopp FSA [111]

[111] Rev Canon Augustus Jessopp

Mr Berney Fickling FSA,[112] Mr F. Tedder FSA (Secy to the Athenaeum Club)[113] Mr Gambier Howe FSA (Beccles) [114] being nearly all the Norfolk F.S.A.s - The following attended the meeting & supported me & got their friends to do so - all having written saying they would do so The President of the Soc Mr Charles P. Read - Lord Avebury, Col Lyons, Mr Hudson Mr Tingey, Mr L'estrange, Mr Tedder, Dr John Venn [115] the Pres of Caius, Dr Butler [116] Master of Trinity - The Secry Mr Peers, Mr Rivington & many others - & in the end I passed successfully the ordeal of election - The work apparently most appreciated was the creating of the Historical Buildings Scy Limited, a self paying company to acquire & preserve for all time buildings of an ancient & antiquarian nature - The only F.S.As in Yarmouth during the last 150 years were Mr Ives,[117] Mr Robt Cory jr, [118] Mr Dawson Turner [119] Mr Charles John Palmer [120]-

3 February 1910 This evening I attended with the Revd William Hudson F.S.A.[121] with whom I dined, my first meeting of the Society of Antiquaries at Burlington House - The President Mr Charles Read [122] was in the chair & a good number of Fellows were

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[112] Philip Berney-Ficklin, Tasburgh Hall, Norfolk - collector of Charles I memorabilia
[113] H R Tedder
[114] Edward R. J. Gambier-Howe
[115] Dr John Venn
[116] Dr H M Butler
[117] John Ives
[118] Mayor of Great Yarmouth in 1815
[119] Dawson Turner
[120] Mayor of Great Yarmouth 1854 & 55, author of The History of Great Yarmouth
[121] Co-author of 'Records of Norwich' 1906
[122] Charles Hercules Read

present, Lord Avebury & some other Lords
whom I did not know. Col Lyons was also
there & Mr Hopper of Starston, Mr Hudson
introduced me to Mr Peers the Secretary
who showed me the old signature book
with the obligation which I read & then
signed The first signature in the book
was "Cantaur" [123] & dated in 1750 or thereabouts
& the signatures have always been made since
that time in this book as fellows have been
appointed or elected - after the minutes
had been read & the certificates of application
for membership also read & it was resolved that
they be suspended The President then called out
that Mr Richard F.E. Ferrier was present &
sought admission as a Fellow of the Society - I was
accordingly called up & the President in his elevated
position on the dais took an old gilded wand of
office in his left hand & took my right hand in
his & said "Mr Richard F.E. Ferrier I duly &
formally admit you a fellow of the Society of
Antiquaries of London" & the ceremony was over & I
was a full blown 'F.S.A.' several papers
followed with short discussion the first on old
silver spoons by Mr Ellis then one on an old silver

[123] The Archbishop of Canterbury is legally entitled to sign his name as "Cantuar" (from the Latin for Canterbury)

bowl from Hadly Royal by Mr C.J Jackson
F.S.A. the actual syllabus we went through
was as follows :-
"Some further examples of the work of English
provincial silversmiths in the 15th 16th & 17th centuries"
by H. Dynes Ellis Esq. "Some bone objects found in
London York & Elsewhere " by F.W. Reader Esq.
"Late 14th centy silver gilt covered cup engraved
with the alphabet from Studley Royal Church Yorks"
by C.J. Jackson Esq F.S.A. - "Latten foot for a
portable cross of early 16th century date, from
Stoke Poges Bucks", by the Revd J.F. Hoyle FSA
"Example of moulded bricks with pictorial
subject", by Lt Col Lyons FSA. We left at 10.15
Bertie calling for me & returned to our hotel
"The Hotel York" Berners St Oxford St [124] &
so took place my first meeting at the Society
of Antiquaries -

Friday 8th April 1910 Attended meeting
at Burnley Hall [125] called by Mr C.W Bedwell [126]
for the purpose of forming a Conservative
& Union Association for the District of
West Flegg - Mr Scrimgeour motored me
over and there were present Mr C.W.
Bedwell (in the chair) Mr W. Scrimgeour

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[124] Hotel York
[125] Burnley Hall, E.Somerton - now the home of Baron Agnew of Oulton
[126] Charles Wilmot Bedwell, resident at Burnley Hall

Mr Cubit Redman, Mr Molyneux , Mr
Butt, Mr Braddock, Mr George Beck
Mr Andrews, Mr R.C.Jones Dr Terneau
& myself - I had prepared a draft
of proposed rules & byelaws & these were
gone thro paragraph by paragraph &
finally settled & adopted - We had
full discussions upon many points &
it was decided that the ordinary members
subscription be £6 a year - as money
would be necessary to work the association
£84 was promised in the room - It
is hoped that this start in organisation
of the district may bear fruits at the
next parliamentary election -

Monday 9th May 1910 On Saturday everybody
was shocked at the startling news that King
Edward the VII died from Bronchitis & heart failure
at 11.45 on Friday night the 6th May (our Judith's
birthday) Not only is it a great loss to the country
in losing such a King but at this time of political
strife & threats of undermining the constitution &
contracting the power of the House of Lords,[127] the
King's death is a national calamity - whether
the new King will possess his fathers power

[127] The Constitutional Crisis, 1909–11

of statecraft remains to be seen. It had
been arranged for Saturday that the ceremony
of opening the new boys' grammar school on
the North Denes should be held - Sir Inglis
Palgrave the chairman of the Governors giving
a large public luncheon - And the Corporation
had resolved to present to Sir Inglis the
freedom of the Borough in a gold casket as
a mark of appreciation of his services to his
country & to the Borough - All this was, on
the information being received, immediately
postponed & the members of the Corporation on
Saturday were hurriedly called together to
pass a note of condolence to the family of
the late King - This was done in silence by
rising & standing a few moments in silence
after the vote had been moved & seconded
by the Mayor & Deputy Mayor - Today Monday
we assembled in the Town Hall & the Mayor
T.W. Swindell, read the proclamation from the
Balcony that George V was King & afterwards
proceeded to the Market Cross & thence to the
Church gates where the proclamation was [128]
also made - Mr Swindell who is a
cashier in the bank of Barclay & Co conducted

[128] The proclamation of accession for George V in 1910 in Great Yarmouth

the difficult & important duties of
Mayor on these occasions with great
credit -

16th July 1910 Yesterday Ric sent us a
wire that he had been successful in
obtaining an Exhibition at Radley
College near Oxford which Madeline
& I saw last September. So he has
settled all questions about which his school
is to be himself - it is £30 a year - &
Dr. Field [129] the Warden or Head Master
says he did good work, shows good
intelligence & he is very glad to have
him in the school - To day we have
carried thro' all the ceremonial
business of conferring the honorary
freedom of the Boro' upon Sir Inglis
Palgrave. The Mayor did his work most
satisfactorily - I wrote out his
speech for him which he delivered very
well.

19th July 1910 Bertie & I attended at the College
of Heralds [130] & signed pedigree of the Ferrier

[129] Dr Thomas Field
[130] Heralds' College

family bringing the same down to date.
We have now recorded in the college
books our pedigree for 400 years with
every step proved from Robert Ferrier
of Rollesby & Yarmouth living from
1500 - 1569 down to my own children
born 1896 - 1899 - 1902 - [131]

22nd September 1910 - To day Ric left us for the
purpose of entering on his public school life at
Radley College - We hear good accounts of the
School from all those to whom we mentioned it
& I trust it will be the commencement of an
happy & successful school career - We think he
may have the makings of a barrister in him & if
he develops these characteristics we will allow
him to follow his bent - He is certainly a good
classical scholar for his age & is fond of good
literature having read nearly the whole of Shakespeare
some Tennyson, nearly all Scotts novels & he is
at present wrapt up in Dumas' novels - he
has a fairly intimate knowledge of English &
French history - His mathematics are weak
Rob has gone back to Mr Nettletons school
at Folkestone alone - He is very good at

[131] Ferrier pedigree

mathematics for his age (10½) having read
the first Book of Euclid & is just beginning
quadratic equations in Algebra - I forgot to say
that he is a succesful prize winner - is captain
of the cricket 2nd XI. & won the medal for the
boxing tournament - I am again being approached
to be Mayor for 1911 - Coronation year - I shall again
try to avoid it as I cannot afford the large
expense & Madeline much dislikes it -

21 October to 25 Novr 1910 Madeline Judith & I
spent a delightful five weeks in Switzerland
one week at Geneva, & the rest of the time at
Territet next Montreux making excursions from
this place & spending two days at Chateau D'Oex
It was wet the first fortnight but afterwards became
fine with snow & hot sunshine & we were able
to take part in the winter sports at Chateau D'Oex
M & I luging quite successfully. The views of the
mountains topped with snow were magnificent.
We stayed at the Hotel Victoria at Geneva a most
comfortable hotel - and at the Hotel Masson at
Territet Veytaux, where we were most comfortable.
We frequently visited Glion, & also visited Caux
Les Avants, St. Moritz, Bex Les Bains, Briand
& other places - of course we thouroughly inspected the

famous Castle of Chillon - We were met by our
new governess Madlle. Bonnet at Geneva & she
remained with us & returned to Hemsby with us -
Judith can talk French like a French child
her grammar being of course faulty at present -
We visited Madlle. Privat's home (our old governess)
& were much interested in their family life -
We came across some uninteresting people & also some
interesting ones including the outspoken but cultivated
American lady at Geneva who threw a fresh light on
the Ober Ammergau play - & at Geneva, Dr. Lightbody &
his wife - the Misses Gee, Mrs Biggar & a nice
young American man who won Judiths heart by the
kindness in amusing her by painting & drawing. & also
an Irish clergyman (Archdeacon Trianor) & his two
jolly daughters - the holiday did Judith a lot of
good & also me & I hope it will set up Madeline
During our absence, the Radical Govt. dissolved &
a general election was declared, I got back in
time for this & was able to vote for Mr Hill our
Yarmouth candidate who was returned, I shall
also vote of course for Mr Meyer the conservative
candidate for E. Norfolk & for Mr A.S. Foster for
North Suffolk.[132] We were very glad to get back
to our snug little Hemsby home -

[132] As a property owner in three constituencies, he was entitled to vote in each.

April 2 1911 Just filled up my
census paper, the second since
we were married. I see by the
copy of my last paper, our two
boys were enumerated, Judith not being
then born. To day the boys are both
at School & one of the servants
"Stella Titlow the housemaid of
Ringland Norwich is absent for the
week end - the following is a copy
of my census paper, which I shall
hand to Mr Joseph Edmonds the
Enumerator for Hemsby tomorrow
Monday morning - It is endorsed
No of Registration district 220
No of Registration subdistrict 2
No of Enumeration district 3

1. Richard Frederick Ernest Ferrier
   Head of House, 45 years of age, married
   Solicitor & Notary Public, connected with
   insurance work - Employer, Born
   Norfolk Great Yarmouth
2. Madeline Lucy Ferrier Wife, 45
   years, married, 15 completed years of
   marriage, 3 children born & living.

born London, Kensington -
3. Judith Madeline Ferrier daughter
8 years single Born Norfolk
Great Yarmouth
4. Anna Bonnet Governess, 21
years, single, Born Switzerland,
Resident, Swiss nationality
5. Rosa Maria Betts Servant 24
years, single, Cook (domestic)
Born Norfolk, Great Melton
6. Frances Ellen Otty Servant, 28
years, single, Parlour maid (domestic)
Norfolk Baconsthorpe -

Absent 7 Richard Gournay Ferrier 14
years - son, St. Peters College
Radley
8 Robert England Ferrier 11
years, son, c/o Mr Nettleton
Feltonfleet Folkestone
9 Stella Titlow, Housemaid
Ringland Norwich -

23 March 1912

It is nearly 12 months since I made
my last note - Nothing much has
happened since of great importance
except perhaps some of the following
In February last year I was presented
by the High School Committee with a
silver tea tray as "slight recognition
of my honorary services from 1893
to 1910 as Secretary - It has a very
laudatory inscription - on May 5
I was elected Vicars Warden of Hemsby
for the 7th time - and in June I
was elected foundation manager of
Priory School - After some very
considerable trouble we were able
to acquire all the property abutting
upon the Arcade [133] on the north really
with a view to obviate the possibility
of a rival arcade being erected
We had to buy it carefully house by
house & there were nine so that
abnormal prices were not attempted
especially the last two or three houses.
The whole cost us about £5500 -

[133] Arcade link 1 Arcade link 2

We then decided to put up a very elegant Amusement Hall which E.V. Barr who hires the 'Gem' Palace said he would be willing to hire - We therefore instructed F.T. Hewitt [134] our Architect to erect this building which was done at a cost of about £11000. It is the best building of its kind in the town & is called the Empire [135] - The work was carried out in the name of our Company the Yarmouth & Gorleston Investment & Building Coy Ltd.

We had the hottest & dryest summer this year for, it is said, sixty years - [136] all August & part of Septr it was phenomenally hot & there was no rain at all -

For some years we have been looking up records relating to our family & its descent from Hermer de Ferrarris [137] of Doomsday - a few years ago we recorded a pedigree with the College of Arms of the branch resident in Yarmouth & the Flegg hundred for

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[134] No F T Hewitt found in the records - Ferrier had previously engaged A S Hewitt.
[135] The Empire, Great Yarmouth
[136] 1911 Heatwave
[137] Family later known as "Ferrers"; Hermerus de Ferraris

400 years, from Robert Ferrier of
Fleg Burgh & Rollesby 1578 down
to myself & children - and we
have now satisfied the college of
Arms that we have born arms
for many generations & also of the
probability of the descent from
the doomsday family & the Heralds
have confirmed the arms used by
us adding to them a portion of the
original arms of De Ferrarris of
1056. & this coat as confirmed is
now emblazoned & recorded in the
books of the College of Arms with
our pedigree. [138]

At the Christmas (annual) meeting
of the Trustees & Managers of the
Yarmouth Savings Bank [139] I was
unanimously appointed Chairman
of the Committee of Management

On Friday 22nd March 1912
Judith went under another operation
to her foot. Dr. Balance assisted
by Henry Wyllys (our Dr) & Valentine
Blake as anaesthetist came over at 10.30

[138] Ferrier pedigree
[139] Great Yarmouth Savings Bank

and Dr Ballance performed the opern.
it took 2¾ hours during which time
Judith was of course under chloroform
A portion of muscle was taken from one
side of the foot & affixed to the other
side & the strong tendon crossed over
& attached to the weaker side - Dr
Ballance thinks the operation will be
quite successful. & Blake said J
took the anaesthetic beautifully -
I paid Ballance £36.15/- & Blake £3.3/-
I am sorry to say that in July
Mother had a slight stroke of
paralysis but from which she has
apparently entirely recovered in Febry
she had a bad attack of influenza
which affected her heart - she is
now much better - she saw a London
specialist Dr Charles Taylor who
advised her to give up all housekeeping
worries & so we have persuaded her
to go & stay at Hemsby Cottage quietly
with Maud which she is now
doing -

September 29th 1912 It is six months since my last entry. Mother I am glad to say is still progressing towards good health & I think is now more reconciled to the necessity of a house-keeper - & the desirability of shunting active work & responsibility.

Madeline thought a rather frequency in bad cold was affecting my health & insisted on seeing a specialist so I was thoroughly overhauled by Dr. Carr [140] of 19 Cavendish Place a man recommended by Maud Bennett - His report was perfectly sound heart & all organs & that he would pass me as a thoroughly sound first class life. He only found fault with my breathing which did not inflate and contract my lungs to the full extent & he recommended plenty of tennis, golf & gentle mountain climbing with skipping & regular deep breathing. I was at the Hemsby Easter Vestry re elected Vicar's Churchwarden for the 8th year & was early in the year elected on the first Yarmouth National Insurance Committee under Mr

[140] John Walter Carr CBE FRCP FRCS

Mr Lloyd Georges National Insurance Act. [141]

For many years we have thought that the Royal Navy would be the best possible life for our boy Robert. Early in the year we applied to the First Lord of the Admiralty for the necessary papers & sent in an application for him to be interviewed by a committee of admirals etc. On 18th June we received the necessary invitation for this purpose & Madeline & I took him up on that day & he was duly interviewed by an Admiral a Port Captain, the head master of Winchester, a cabinet minister & the Secretary to the Admiralty - They asked many searching questions for a boy of 12, held a converstion in French & made him write an essay on Free Trade, & he was also submitted to a most thorough medical exam & also for his sight. I am glad to say he came through these ordeals with success & on July 23 & 24 attended in London with M & me for his competitive literary exam which he also passed - on the 17 Septr Bertie & I took him to Portsmouth & we all went over the Royal Naval College [142]

[141] National Insurance Act 1911
[142] Royal Naval War College

which is a most beautiful place. He had on the 4 August received notice from the Admiralty that he had passed his exam & was appointed to H.M.'s Ship Racer [143] & was to join the R.N. College on the 19th Septr. We accordingly saw him into the Steamer with about 70 other new cadets on that day & left him happy & jolly - We have had two letters from him since & he is delighted with everything -

Ric is getting on very well at Radley College & has this term received his promotion to the Middle V form & is regarded as very high up for his age (under 16) He is very proud that he has a study all to himself - He is nearly 6 feet. Judiths foot is much improved & the Drs are quite satisfied with the results of her operation.

December 6th 1912 Madeline & I went to day down to the Isle of Wight & stayed at East Cowes near the Royal Naval College. We paid frequent visits to Rob & were much interested in his life there. The discipline of the College is rather

[143] HMS Racer - a tender to Royal Naval College, Osborne, near Cowes

severe, everything is regulated by bugle call & orders of the Capt Cadets. The etiquet is also very strict & it doesn't appear to be the 'thing' for a 5th or 6th term boy to be aware of the existence of a first term boy. In Robs case there were one or two exceptions in the case of Omahony who was at Mr Nettletons school with him & one or two other boys higher are also friendly. We had a good talk with his lieutenant, Mr Scott, who said Rob was a promising boy & would he felt sure make a useful officer. He however said he was not very brainy, but as to this we shall see, We also spoke to Lieut Mitchell his engineering lieutenant We went to the pantomime got up entirely by the officers & boys & it was wonderfully clever & amusing. On Sunday we went to church in Nelson & earlier in the morning we watched 'divisions' - a parade & inspection by the Captain -

it was really astonishing how
smartly these little boys turned out
& formed line in companies & then
formed fours & marched out - Rob
seems very happy & says the ~~light~~
life is 'splendid' - We came back
to London on Monday the 9th Decr
& stayed a few days at the Ivanhoe [144]
Bloomsbury St. arriving home at Hemsby
Lodge on Friday night.

26th December 1913 A good deal has happened
this year since I last made an entry
in my journal. Our lease of Hemsby
Lodge expired on the 6th July last
& about 2 months before this I approached
Hornor the agent to the estate first about
buying the Lodge which Mrs Lofthouse refused
to sell & then about getting a lease for 14
or 21 years with an option for another
7 years & Hornor on the 4th June said
Mrs Lofthouse would give us a lease for
14 years on the same terms & that the
offer must be accepted within a week
After fully considering the matter we
came to the conclusion that as it was

[144] Ivanhoe Hotel

absolutely necessary to build another sitting room
& two more bedrooms if we were to be
in the least comfortable at the Lodge
such a short lease would be useless.
I therefore saw Miles who I knew was
trying to sell Ormesby House [145] & asked
him if he would accept an offer to
let the place for 2 years with an option
to purchase during that time, after a
few days he saw me & said that the
Redmans would do what I wished
& we could have a meeting & settle
details - we formally agreed to the
principal of this & the next day
Hornor rang up stating that Mrs L
would meet us as far as possible
& his clerk was coming over to see
me. Of course when my word was
passed to Miles Mrs Lofthouse came
completely round & offered me the
terms I had asked - but it was
I am was very sorry to part, too late.
However we took possession of Ormesby
House on 6th July & it certainly is a
very nice & convenient place - It is

[145] Ormesby House in 2024

situate on the main road next to
Little Ormesby Church - there is a
wood dividing the park from the high
road - the park along which runs
a moat being about 15 acres in
extent with beautiful trees well
grown. The house is of very good
appearance & surrounded by lawns
& flower gardens with stables, yard
Kitchen garden & garage at the back
~~with~~ we have a splendid drawing
room with conservatory & fern house
leading from it & very good dining
room study & library - & plenty of
excellent bedrooms. It is of course
a much larger affair than Hemsby
Lodge; Ormesby House being a place
& one of the seats mentioned in the
Norfolk list - it is much more
expensive to run as it necessitates
Five women servants & three men
servants with chauffeur in addition
but I shall not be in a hurry to
exercise my option to buy until I have
had time to see exactly what it

costs me & whether it is well within my means - M & the children are delighted with the place, my only regret is that it is in Ormesby & not in Hemsby where the family have been seated for centuries - Knowing we should require a motor I entered into a business arrangement with a Dr Middleton who had been carrying on a motor garage & we took over his motor company (The Universal Garage Ltd) & continuing to carry on the business. Mother always having a car & I having one also at ordinary rates our business alone being a good nucleus for the Compy.

During the year we were able to acquire for our Company a very valuable piece of land on the Royal Plain at Lowestoft & also 3 houses alongside & some stables in the rear - on a portion of this we erected a very handsome Amusement Hall which E.V. Barr has taken over [146] - It was not opened till August & so too late this year to be

[146] Picture Variety Theatre for cinema opened on the site of the Royal Livery Stables in South Lowestoft. Later became 'The Palace'.

known or become popular for the
summer season - However we have
great hopes that it will turn out
very successful - At the Easter Vestry
I was elected churchwarden of Hemsby
for the 9th year in succession & have
continued to read the lessons - We
hope to attend Hemsby church while
we are at Ormesby - I have also
been elected an Alderman of the
Boro' of Great Yarmouth in the place
of Mr Frank Burton resigned - &
have now served over 19 years on
the Council having been elected a
Town Councillor on 1st Novr 1894
Ric is prospering satisfactorily at
Radley College although I do not
think he will ever give too much
time to midnight oil - Rob is
getting on well at Osborne Naval
College & is growing a smart little
sailor - Judith is getting quite a
big girl & I think her leg shows
signs of improvement altho it is
certainly smaller than the other

We gave up our offices, in September,
No 33 Hall Plain, which I had had
for 28 years since I was 20 - & have
taken the house No 16 South Quay [147]
which are near, after we have painted
decorated, furnished, carpeted, electric
lighted & radiator-ed, the most
comfortable offices in Yarmouth -
Poor Mrs Miles died during the year
to our very great grief & my dear
mother has also passed away -
She had another stroke on the 4th
December 1913 & after being very well
indeed at breakfast & after she
succumbed about 10.30 - Madeline
& Maud Badeley were with her & they
sent for Dr Ryley who got her up
stairs & from the Thursday till the following
Monday she was very ill only gaining
consciousness at rare intervals - We
were with her as much as possible
Louie Madeline & Maud sitting up
all the nights. She recognised me
on several occasions & spoke to me
We were all with her at 1.40 on

[147] Listed building & photograph

Monday 8th Decr when she
passed away, she breathed her
last breath so quietly & without
any alteration that we hardly knew
when it came - a more peaceful
death one could not conceive of -
she was only 68 & is a most terrible
loss to us as she has not only been
a most affectionate mother
but also an interested companion
in all our doings - I remember her
distinctly since she was 25 & I was
6. This is the first Xmas of my
48 times she has not been with
me - We buried her in the Vault
in Hemsby Churchyard with my
father who died in 1895 -

August 16th 1914.
Eight months have passed since I
made my last entry, and what a
difference in the times ! Bertie has
lived with us since mothers death
& will continue to do so - we all
like Ormesby House very much but
have not quite decided that we shall

care to spend the money necessary to
keep it up properly - Ric has got
on well at Radley College & has
earned his remove next term into
the Upper V Rob has finished his
2 years at Osborne R.N. College
& unfortunately after tonsilitis developed
an abscess in the ear which caused
perforation of the drum. The Fleet
Surgeon states that it is quite well
& nothing further need be done but
he must be careful not to catch
cold & he must not bathe -
Madeline, Bertie & I spent a
very happy fortnight in Glion
above Montreux (Switzerland) during
the first part of June. We stayed
at the Hotel Victoria & spent a
good portion of our time in Montreux
& at the Kursaal [148] frequently going
up & down to Glion by the 'Sentier Rapide' [149]
which we much enjoyed. We came
back by the 25th June & then went
for a most delightful motor tour
in the 'Unic' [150] with Cozens as our

[148] Montreux Kursaal
[149] Territet-Glion funicular railway
[150] Unic

Chauffeur. We went to Abingdon
to see Ric, stayed at Oxford two
or three days, & took him down
to Henley etc we also motored to
Southampton & stayed at Osborne
& spent some time with Rob &
saw the RN College assault at
arms - we motored round the
South of England stopping at
many places & had one of the
most enjoyable holidays we
had ever experienced -
Shortly after our return &
just after the height of the Yarmouth
season had commenced complications
began to arise between Austria
& Servia [151] through the murder of
the Austrian heir to the throne by
the Servians & in a few hours the
whole of Europe has been embroiled
in what seems likely to be the
most terrible war recorded in
European history Germany supported
Austria against Servia & Russia
We had to come forward to insist

[151] Alternative name at the time for Serbia

that Belgian *(sic)* should not be
interfered with & France has
taken the part of her ally Russia
All the countries of Europe
have mobilized & most of them
are on the side of France Russia
& ourselves - Germany has
disregarded her treaty obligations
with Belgium & has alienated
the good opinion held for her
by other nations - Her apparent
intention was, even before the war
against France was actually
declared, to rush through Belgium
& besiege Paris, & having
dominated France & dictated
terms to rapidly return &
defend herself against Russia
She has been woefully mistaken
in her initial calculations the
Belgians having displayed a most
determined & successful opposition
& have caused the Germans after
15 days to confess their failure
to overcome the forts at Liége

and so today the French Belgian
& English armies are formed up
still in possession of Liége, facing
nearly a million strong of the
~~Russian arm~~ German army. The
German Fleet are skulking in
Kiel Harbour & the British
Fleet is awaiting them outside.
When war was declared the
feeling in the country was very
tense, fortunately it came just
before the August Bank holiday
so the Stock Exchange & the Banks
were shut soon afterwards but
in two days the Bank rate went
up from £4 to £10 per cent &
then the Banks were all closed
for 3 more days & the Stock
Exchange shut - gold was
called in & £1 & 10/- notes
issued & a moritorium passed
to give a months further time
for the payment of debts etc
Prices went up & things looked
indeed very gloomy but the closing

of the Banks prevented money
panic & in about a week by
the action of the Government in
dealing cleverly & quickly things
began to get normal. Of course
the Yarmouth season is spoilt
as it got into the papers that
Yarmouth was not safe &
visitors were ordered to leave
It will most seriously affect
our investments, especially the
Arcade & the Empire, Gem
Gorleston & Lowestoft Hall &
will bring a loss of several thousand
pounds to us - It is hoped
that if the Germans are thoroughly
beaten we shall agree with
the powers to prevent such waste
upon Armaments in future —
We expect every day to hear that
Rob will be ordered to join the
Fleet as a midshipman - Ric
has volunteered for the war &
hopes to get a temporary
commission in the army -

28 September 1915 - It is over a year since
I made my last note. What a year
it has been ! I suppose this terrible
war has hardly been at any time
absent from our thoughts, & after
over 13 months terrible war we seem
no nearer the end than we were in
August 1914 - The loss of life has been
simply terrible & in every village deaths
have to be recorded. For 6 months
I do not suppose the Allies or their
enemies have gained 6 yards in
France & Belgium & the system of
trench warfare seems to render
both defences practically impregnable.
Michael Scrimgeour was killed in
France. Ric obtained a Commission
in the 2nd 5th Norfolks & was gazetted
on the 19th November 1914 - He has
gone through the various training
of a 2nd Lieutenant, but from what
I can gather the training is not
quite satisfactory & the Col who in
private life is a Dr in a country town
is slack - Ric was not 18 when he

joined & since then various officers
have been drafted to the front. Ric
volunteered, as soon as he obtained
his commission, for foreign service
but his age & his terribly short sight
were against him, but he hopes
later on he may have his chance
Ric, coming straight from school
with the supervision & regulations
& constraints of school life, found
the life rather different, no restraint,
a bank book & cheque book & the
feeling that he was absolutely free
with an unlimited spending power
& it was desirable that I should,
until he had gained some experience,
regulate matters a little for him -
He is very popular with the
officers & very cheery & amiable &
always good company. He is not
greatly addicted to hard work but
when the newness & freedom of his
new life have worn off & a proper
appreciation of the necessity for thorough
work takes its place I am sure

he will come out greatly strengthened
& improved by his experience of the
regiment. Rob has finished his
period at Dartmouth RN College
& also passed the time at Keyham
College [152] - He loved Dartmouth &
altho his place in class was not
high yet I think the magnificent
training at the Naval College has
developed & strengthened his character
& brought out manly & thoughtful
qualities. Madeline & I on Friday
the 24th Septr instant saw Rob
off by train at Kings Cross for Inverness
to join his ship HM Ship Hercules [153]
a super Dreadnaught. Judith likes
her governess Miss Dora De Renzi very
much she is a New Zealander her
father being a Dr at Christchurch
J has become quite a big girl & very
strong muscularly & very shrewd -
Madeline & I have jogged on, enjoying
the beautiful grounds of Ormesby House
Bertie is still living with us & we go
in every day to the office - He hired

[152] Royal Naval Engineering College
[153] HMS Hercules

shortly before last Xmas (1914) No 18
Regent Road where Dr Wrigley used
to live, the latter having purchased
St Georges Gate from Bertie - But he
found Regent Road so noisy from
the garage opposite & constant trains
that he never slept in the house for
the 10 months we held it & were only
too glad to sacrifice some money we
had spent on it in order to get rid
of the house - The War has paid
havoc with our finances - We
had entered into very heavy obligations
in connection with the Arcades & also
as to the Company we are connected
with our payment of capital
instalments & large interests on the
four amusement Halls relying on
the revenue from such halls to
pay such amounts - But alas !
the war altered everything - We
were the first town to be bombarded
by enemy ships [154] & the first to be raided
by air ships, Bombs from which did
great damage to the town - [155]

[154] Raid on Yarmouth, on 3 November 1914
[155] The First Air Raid: Great Yarmouth- Bob Wyatt

The result being that all the lights were disallowed on the front & it was so dark the people were afraid to venture - In addition a large new gaudy hall in the centre of the Regent Road was put up at enormous cost which made it easy for the people to get their amusement without going on the front. So the Gem had to be shut up at Xmas last & the Empire as well & all revenue from those halls at once stopped although the rates, insurance, interest on capital & sinking fund had to continue. The Arcade rate had to be reduced & leases falling in during the war were not renewed - while the mortgage interest & sinking fund of £500 a year had to be paid - Under all the circumstances Bertie & my income is since the war reduced by 5/6 so that we have had to entrench very heavily on our capital & in these abnormal times the Banks instead of protecting their customers whose security it would be unwise

to realize were not at all disposed
to give very friendly facilities - We
have decided that during the War
we must cut down our domestic
expenses as low as possible & with
this view we have decided to give
up Ormesby House & retire to Hemsby
Cottage - & this we shall probably
do about Christmas -

1st November 1916 More than a year has
passed since my last entry & we are
still in the midst of this terrible was
Italy has come in on our side & also
Rumania & Bulgaria & Turkey have
joined our enemies - Compulsory service
has been adopted by our country & every
man up to 41 years of age is liable
for service - We have not made very
much progress on the French front
but have I think gained the ascendancy
over our enemies altho trench warfare
is so terribly slow. The battle of
Jutland demonstrated the superiority
of our fleet altho the Germans by

adding very materially to their submarines
have done enormous damage to the
mercantile marine of ourselves, neutrals
& allies, resulting in some measure
to the price of food & other commodities
being very greatly increased - The Roll
of honor has affected every village as
well as the towns & it is difficult to
find any family who has not suffered
losses of sons or relations - This is the
third year in which there have been
no visiting or fishing seasons resulting
in ruin to many families in Yarmouth
& in great losses to every trader and
business man - strenuous efforts
have been made to get the Government
to help the town by pecuniary grant
but so far they have not been successful
We have lost practically all our
income during the last three years.
We have given up Ormesby House &
taken up our residence last Novr
at Hemsby Cottage which looks very
charming with our pretty things about
Madeline is quite happy there & of

of course our expenses are very considerably
reduced - Bertie disposed of his lease
of Dr Wrigleys house No 18 Regent
Road & moved into No 16 Regent Rd
(Milton House) which a few years
since we purchased for trade premises
& owing to the war, have not dealt
with - a good bit of our furniture
was also moved there as we could
not accommodate so much at
Hemsby - We have recently sold the
latter house to Mr Cyril Pownall
& he is going to convert it into shops
& warehouses at back - & Bertie
will take a house temporarily until the
war is over when he will no doubt
decide on one permanently. Bertie
continues to reside permanently with us.
I still hold all my public appointments
but have not taken up any public
work at Hemsby since we came
back. Stella after many years with
us a housemaid has left but
Frances Otty our Parlour maid
is with us still & has completed her

ten years in our service. Sadler has
come to us as groom gardener & general
odd man & his wife is our cook &
daughter our housemaid & they live
in my cottage at the end of our
garden. Frances being the only servant
sleeping in the house - Madeline
has taken over Judiths education
& they both are much interested in
the work to which M gives very
great energy & attention. Judith is
strong & well grown & but for her
weak side would become a fine strong
woman - She is very intelligent &
possesses extraordinary common sense
for her age & shows great powers of
good judgment, she is very interested
in birds & natural history & does
carpentering - She is possessed of a very
good fox terrier "Jock" who is a
general favourite while poor old
"Sambo" is getting very old altho he
always accompanies us in our walks
Ric is a 1st Lient in the Norfolk
Regiment & altho in August 1915 &
(1914)

directly after the war began he volunteered
for foreign service up to the present his
defective sight has prevented him from
going out. He has been quartered at
many places including E Dereham,
Peterborough, Cambridge, Bury St Edmunds
Harrogate, Doncaster etc. He is getting
used to responsibility & I think his
experience as an officer & in managing his
own finances will be of the greatest value
to him in after life - of course his youth
& inexperience have made it difficult
for him at times but I have regulated
his finances so that he has a fixed sum
each week which regulates his expenditure
I fear the present life is unfitting him
somewhat for office life & I do not
know upon what we shall decide
as to his career. Rob since last
November has been a "Snottie" [156] in the
Dreadnought HMS Hercules - after
10 months service he obtained one
weeks leave which he spent with
us at Hemsby Cottage, Ric also coming
home for 2 days to catch a glimpse

[156] Royal Navy slang for Midshipman

of him - Rob gave us accounts of his own
experience in the Battle of Jutland &
that he saw the salvoes fired from
his ship - He loves his life & gets on
remarkably well with his officers. He
is strong & tall & very healthy & is
very thoughtful & capable thoroughly
understanding his work. He obtained
a splendid certificate from his captain
who described him as a "very keen &
capable young officer" He obtained the
fleet 2nd boxing cup for light weights
of which we are all very proud - He
is very careful & methodical about
money matters & has in the whole year
not called upon me for any money
except £3 that was stolen & £2 for
journey money. We are both very thankful
for his successful career brought about
by his strong & capable character -
My health has not been good the
last year - thro no doubt the constant
business strain during these most
trying times - We have had to call very
heavily on our capital to meet calls &

our bankers. The Nat Prov Bank with their
manager Mr S. Owen have not been helpful
but rather the reverse, altho one can
imagine Banks have had most difficult
problems themselves to solve which have
no doubt made them unable to meet
customers wishes however anxious they may
have been to do so - on the other hand
Mr Ord & Mr Swindell of Barclay & Coy
have been most kind and considerate to us
& our Company the Yarm & Gorleston Investment
& Building Coy Ld & have helped more
than they can know - We all hope &
trust the War will be over well before
next summer or we really do not know
what will happen - The Town will surely
be in desperate straits & materially
depopulated -

29 Novr 1916 Ric came down to stay with
us at Hemsby Cottage on a weeks sick
leave, he having developed a cold resulting
in catarrh of the throat. With the
exception of his throat he seemed quite
well & strong - I think he is rather tired
of home service in a territorial regiment

after two & half years - But I think
the experience of managing his own
money affairs to a great extent has
been an excellent thing for him & taught
him the value of money & the wisdom
of undertaking liabilities only which
he can meet - His officers in his
regiment (the 2/5 Norfolks) are with
two or three exceptions men taken
from commercial businesses, offices & shops
& are not quite up to the cultivated
standard of Radley with the result
that intellectually he has not had
opportunities he would have had
in following his proposed career if the
war had not come - He is not at
present prone to effort for mental
improvement & at present does not
realize the necessity of keeping in touch
with his classics or any subjects that
may be necessary for examination for
the legal or other professions - I have
tried hard to impress on him the
necessity to do this & also to cultivate
himself so that he may not fall back

amomgst his fellows as a cultivated &
educated gentleman when he after the war
takes up his career - He says he has no
time among his army duties but I fear his
present life rather detracts from mental
effort & he adopts a "laissez faire" attitude
as to the future - He is very good society
amusing in a light way & is acquiring an
amusing power of talking "Norfolk" like
a Norfolk labourer. We find after he has
been at home for a week & has been in close
association with his mother then he becomes
more refined & seems to demand more
cultivated things -

8th July 1917 Another seven months have passed
& we are no nearer a termination of this terrible
war, in fact the revolution in Russia & deposition
of the reigning dynasty has probably delayed peace
altho the joining the allies by the U.S.A. will
render more certain the definite victory over the
central powers - Two very disastrous air
raids over London have taken place,[157] &
meetings have taken place all over the country
urging the government to take stronger
retaliatory measure - All our clerks

[157] London daylight air raids

have been called up except Newman
& Field & we may lose the latter, we
have Pratt also who is paralysed
& two or three girl clerks without
experience & it makes it very hard
for Bertie & me who have to keep our
eyes on the smallest details. Thrower
the clerk who helped me with my work
of Hon Secretary at the Hospital was
called up & in consequence of this &
the reduction of the staff generally I
had to relinquish the position as
Hon Secretary. before doing so I got
Sir Francis Vincent of Ormesby [158] to take
up the work & I thoroughly trained
him before I retired which I did
at the annual meeting in June 1917.
The committee & the General annual meeting
were very polite & passed a resolution
unanimously electing me a member
of the Committee of Management for
life - so after 25 years service I
am no longer secretary - I regret
losing the work & greatly miss it
after every day for my whole working

[158] Sir Francis Erskine Vincent 1869-1935 13th Baronet of Stoke D Abernon

life having had something to do for the
hospital. Miss Boswell the matron
who I had always tried to assist in
every way, came back from France a few
days after my retirement & altho she
went to call on the new secreatry & also
went to the Hospital, altho she was
staying in the same village (Hemsby) did
did not come to see us !!! – We are still
at Hemsby Cottage & our business,
Company & financial affairs are still
as gloomy as ever. The Gem is shut
up the Empire making a loss, the Gorleston
& Lowestoft Halls making a small
profit & the Arcade still closed &
most of the leases of the shops run
out & not renewed. Meanwhile all
the capital payments & interest
are running on & the interest & ground
rents have to be met by us, out of
our rapidly shrinking capital - & there
is no apparent reason to think the
war will not go on for another
3 years - if it does I don't know
whatever will happen.

Up to the time we left Ormesby I
used frequently to visit Hemsby Church
& always read the lessons altho I could
not retain the position of Churchwarden
as I was not a parishioner. & I also
remained a member of the Parish Council,
School Bd, & other public bodies -
but for some extraordinary reason when
we came back permanently to Hemsby
& settled at the Cottage, Oakeley's
attitude changed & when I was going
up to the lectern to read the lessons
he bustled out before me & read
them himself without ever afterwards
explaining or giving any reason. I was
also not reelected a member of the
various public bodies in the village &
the Oakeleys never called on us at
all. I have no knowledge of having
ever done or said any thing to cause
this & it makes it very difficult in
a small village like Hemsby -
Bertie is of course still with us
& we always are discussing the many
knotty problems in connection with our

affairs & up to the present have in a
remarkable way overcome all the difficulties
that have arisen. Madeline has had
a rather serious attack of influenza
& Rheumatism & is still only slowly
recovering. Ric is a Captain in the
Norfolk Rgt & is very popular with
his Colonel (Hon C. Harris) He is
very friendly with Mrs C. Wood [159] & her
daughter Doris Plowden [160] - Rob is at
home at the moment, on short leave
He is a senior Midshipman on board
HMS "Hercules" & the life suits him very
well & he is very fond of the work -
He has kept a most interesting diary [161]
containing all the events of life on
board ship - He is very careful & thoughtful
& his character has been well developed
by the discipline & training of a sailors
life - He is very thrifty & careful abouit
money & never calls upon me except
for clothes etc He recoginises the hardness
of the times & regulates his expenditure
accordingly - He is a strong fine good looking
~~body~~ with very attractive manners

[159] Widow of Major-General George Ward Chicheley Plowden , married Charles Norton Wood in 1906
[160] Doris Esperanza Rosemary Chicheley Plowden
[161] Extant at the Norfolk Archives

and an affectionate disposition -

18th December 1917 Alas ! that I should have
to make this entry only a few short
months after our darling Rob was with
us for a most delightful 8 days. He is
I greatly fear gone from us - on the
16th Novr last having most successfully
passed his exams as a Sub Lieut he
was 'lent' to the Destroyer HMS "Partridge"
& he wrote us several times stating that
he much liked the work. On the 9th
instant he wrote us that he would be
away on special duty for over a week
which would account for him not writing
to us but his mother was not to worry
as he would not be in any danger -
This morning was a full account of
our catastrophe The Partridge & the
Pellew both destroyers were convoying
a number of Norwegian food ships from
England to Norway & were suddenly
attacked by four large German Destroyers
& the Partridge was hit & after 10
minutes an explosion took place & she
sank [162] The Pellew continued for a time

[162] HMS Partridge

until badly hit & managed to get away
The Partridge gallantly continued fighting
until she sank endeavouring to cover
her convoy while they escaped - The
paper states that 3 officers were taken
prisoner & 1 officer the Commander was killed
We have ascertained that there were 7
officers on board & a warrant officer &
so the chances of Rob being a prisoner
are small - of the 7 officers, one the
Commander was killed, the Lieut (Mr Grey)
is known to be one of the 3 prisoners so
there are 2 prisoners unknown & 3 officers
unaccounted for. We dare hardly hope
that our boy may be one of the two
unknown prisoners but we are hoping against
hope that it may be so - what a blow
the loss is to his mother & me ~~know~~ no one
will ever know. The sweetest most thoughtful
loving child that ever lived, never by
word or deed having done anything to draw
even a reproving word - His wonderful
letters are full of interest & loving thoughts
& with his loss ~~gives~~ goes out of our
lives a great portion of the~~ir~~ brightness &

may God grant that he is a prisoner
& will come again to us later on -
To day has been a terrible day for of
us. I can hardly realize what has
happened & if the worst comes, what
a dreary outlook it will be - Poor
Madeline is heartbroken - Tomorrow would
have been his 18th birthday ! —

26 November 1918 Nearly a year has gone
since we experienced the tragedy of our
lives & lost our dearest Rob - We long
ago gave up all hope of hearing of
him. We made enquiries from every
quarter. Mr Egerton Grey the father of
the Lieut in the Partridge who was taken
prisoner wrote to his son & sent us his
reply stating Rob was seen lying on
a raft just before the 'Partridge'
explode - We also had a letter from
Engr Lieut Butt also a prisoner who
was at Osborne as an officer while R
was there, also making the same
statement & we also heard from Dr
Faicheny who was taken prisoner
but set free - We also got Admiral

Sir D Sturdee [163](Robs admiral in the
Hercules) to make special enquiries
all resulting in the conclusion that
his raft was swamped - the other
officers who were also lost probably
in the same way were Lieut Commr
Ransome, Lieut Walters RN, Mid Wyatt
RNR & Gunner Calvert RN. - We have
never for a single ceased to mourn
our terrible loss - He was everything
to Madeline & me & even now I can
hardly realize that his bright loving
interesting personality is gone from us
for ever here - We have his ship chest
in our upper hall & I see it whenever
I go up or down stairs & all his little
treasures, his stamp collection, his coins
his letters & his many little personal
belongings are all there untouched.
We have all his diaries from about
1907 up to the large most interesting
diary of his year in the Hercules &
his account of the Jutland Battle
& his unfinished novel that he
was writing. The Armistice & cessation

[163] Admiral Sir Frederick Charles Doveton Sturdee

of this terrible war was agreed
to on the 11 Novr & the complete
surrender of Germany Austria etc
obtained - The rejoicings upon the
termination of this terrible war of 4 ½
years were celebrated every where
but with us there could be no real
rejoicing with the bitter knowledge
that our darling boy had been
sacrificed for no real result
& probably through some hideous
error on the part of the admiralty
in not having the covering destroyers
ready as they should have been -
We have kept in touch with Wolscombe
a Lieut in the Hercules who was a
friend of Bobs & he has written us
the kindest of letters about him -
Poor Lorna lost her boy Francis
a few days before the armistice &
after being in France only a week
or so - Hussey & she are broken hearted.
Ric has been fighting in France &
commanded his company there
& was engaged successfully in two

offenses in the latter of which he was
gassed & had to be sent home to
Hospital. He was for some weeks
in a private Hospital in Grosvenor
Square - he was almost immediately
convalescent & saw a great deal of
the Woods & Doris Plowden - We
strongly advised him that it was
impossible for him to marry Doris
yet (their engagement had been
agreed to & announced in the Times
in February last) But they took
the matter into their own hands &
were secretly married in a Register
Office in near St. Georges Hanover Sq.
They ~~were~~ afterwards went thro' the
church ceremony at St. Georges Campden
Hill M J & I were going up for it
but at the last moment I was ill
in bed with the Influenza & Rheumatism
& we could not go - I fear they have
made a mistake but we must hope
for the best - Recently at the Sale [164]
of the Hemsby Estate I purchased the
lordship of the manor of Hemsby & the

[164] Norfolk Record Office MC 3212/3 Item 5.

Patronage of the Vicarage & the Lay Rectorship
thus owning the Chancel of the church [165]
~~A p~~ a position held by our Ancestors
up to 1818 a hundred years ago -
Judith progresses very well with
her lessons with Madeline who is
devoted to the work - Judith is a
very charming girl without any of
the 'wiles' of a society girl - Devoted
to country pursuits & aquiring a very
good knowledge of natural history
& birds - Our business as lawyers
has nearly disappeared owing to the
war & we have lost many thousands
of pounds in investments most of which
were connected with the summer seasons
Whether we shall now begin to retrieve
things remains to be seen - We have
our dear little Hemsby Cottage to
live in & are able to keep down
our expenses - M & I are all in
all to each other & if we only had
our dear boy we should be perfectly
happy notwithstanding our financial
losses -

[165] According to the reference in footnote above, Ferrier paid £675 for the Lordship of the Manor, 77 acres of the dunes and foreshore, and the advowson of the vicarage; and £900 for the Rectorial tithes.

20 November 1919 Another year has nearly passed since I made my last entry. Our darling Robs loss is as poignant as ever. Whenever I see a boy in Sub-Lieutenants uniform it gives me a dreadful pang. Aubrey Grey [166] who was ~~Sub~~ Lieutenant in the Partridge & taken prisoner when Rob was killed after being a prisoner in Germany for 12 months was released shortly after the armistice & most kindly came & spent a few days with us at Hemsby Cottage & told us all about Robs short month in the Partridge Grey is a most delightful fellow & we enjoyed having him very much indeed He is a perfect type of the best naval officer - He lives at Cobham with his father who is a Barrister & a cousin of Viscount Grey - Robs old sub Wollocombe [167] whom ~~he~~ we at once called 'Woolly' also most kindly came & spent a few days with us - He was with Rob the whole time he was a midshipman in the Hercules & is constantly referred to in Robs diaries as "one of the best"

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[166] Aubrey Grey

[167] Henry Bidlake Wollocombe b.26/10/1894 joined HMS Hercules 07/04/1915

We were also perfectly delighted with
him & in fact Madeline lost her
heart to both these boys - Wooly is the
son of a well todo Devonshire person
& spoke most nicely & admiringly of
our dearest boy -
With regard to Ric After being very
undecided as to whether he should
stay in the army permanently or not
the immediate prospect of being sent
to India settled the matter for them
& Ric & Doris
really against my advice at the last
moment Ric sent in his papers &
decided to follow the fortunes of the
office - We got them a little furnished
house at Gorleston on the front &
they took possession of it on Novr 1st
Ric went up & passed the law preliminary
exam altho shortly after he received
the fiat of the Master of the Rolls
exempting him from doing so - He has
come into the office & so far has been
industrious & very intelligent & keen
on his work - We hope to article
him shortly as a Solicitor & Notary.
Judith continues her lessons with

Madeline & is beginning to show very
good results - she is devoted to natural
history & Bird life & is acquiring a
very great amount of technical knowledge
We think of sending her to Paris next
year to a finishing school. We are still
in the dear little Hemsby Cottage
but about a month ago I agreed to
buy Hemsby Lodge our old home
for £1300 [168] - & we propose to have it
improved & we shall move into it
when these ~~have~~ improvements & additions
have been carried out. We spent a
months holiday at Bournemouth &
Morleys Hotel [169] London in October
& part of September & Madeline was very
pleased with Bournemouth - I am
glad to say shortly after the Armistice business
began to look up & since then we have done
fairly well & have added to our staff a
new conveyancing clerk named Robert
Palmer who for many years was with
Mr Z Rayson a local solicitor -
We have also done well with our
companies & have to some extent reduced

[168] There had been no bids for The Lodge at the 1918 Hemsby estate auction
[169] Morley's Hotel

their bank loans for which we became guarantors - The Arcade also after having been derelict for 4 years was all let this summer & we paid £500 on a/c of the mortgage - This month I was unanimously re-elected an Alderman of the Borough for a further term of six years - Mr. W.H. Bayfield [170] was elected Mayor for 1919/20 & when he greeted me at his reception he called out that he was in "my perch" I suppose I shall have to be Mayor in a year or so - In October Madeline & I on the recommendation of Maud Bennett saw Dr Leonard Williams [171] a specialist about my gouty headaches & Madelines series of gouty rheumatism He suggested that we should both get quite well by following his diet which was to eschew all meats & cooked foods of all kinds & live on practically raw fruits & vegetables & cheese & nuts & milk - & also that we should wear as everybody should an abdominal support belt.

[170] William Henry Bayfield
[171] Leonard Williams

to some extent we have carried out
his diet & believe we have felt
better & I certainly have not had
nearly as many headaches - We have
had some thoughts of purchasing Hemsby
Hall in the hope that when the Scrimgeours
lease is up in seven years we may
be in a position to live there; in the
meantime take up the purchase money
by mortgage & devote the rent to the
interest - But this I fear is only
one of our Castles in the air –

17 January 1920 - On the 13th January 1920 Doris
gave birth to a son at 6.15 AM. Henry
Wyllys attended her & reported that it was
a fine boy fully developed & weighing over
8lbs Madeline at once went over to Thet
Lodge Marine Parade Gorleston where the boy
was born upon receiving my telephone message
& saw Doris & the boy & reported that both
were doing very satisfactorily. Madeline
Judith Bertie & I went over this afternoon
to see the grandson - He was a fine bright
little boy & very good - He has black hair
dark bright eyes & a good head - I

nursed him & he was very good - Doris has
as her monthly nurse an old friend of
her family who has seen many members of
it through their similar experiences & has
attended, she said, 400 cases - her name
is Nurse James. We have been considering
about the boy's name & we of course
decided on 'Richard' & on 'Gournay' &
are undecided whether the middle
name shall be 'Anthony' or "De Waunci" [172]
after the old territorial family whom we
represent & whose arms we quarter -
Ric has now been in the office for nearly
3 months & shows the keenest interest
in the work & has been regular and
industrious & I think & believe will
make a good lawyer. He already
has shown that he appreciates business
habits & confesses that it is all quite
knew to him - & that in the army he
& the other officers were very unbusinesslike
The Birth was announced in the Times
& Yarmouth Independent & Yarmouth
Mercury in the issue of the 16th January 1920
& in the Eastern Daily Press of the 15th Janry.

[172] De Waunci family, Lords of the Manor of West Barsham, Norfolk, 1066 - 1357

6 February 1920

Bertie & I felt for some months that if possible we should dearly like to become the owners of Hemsby Hall even if I could never afford to live in it, as it is the chief seat of the district & in the village Hemsby which for ten generations has been the residence of the Ferriers & in which they have continuously owned a considerable part of the land - I had on several occasions seen the agents & solicitors of the present owner the Honble Alice Campbell & had suggested varying prices but without success - I had also discovered that Mr Scrimgeour held a lease of the property which did not run out until July 1927 - at a rent including the shooting of £375 and I also knew that the house could not be built for less than £15000, it being fitted up in a very sumptuous way with modern sanitary arrangements electric light throughout - 5 bath

rooms, beautifully constructed &
arranged billiard room [173] - Yesterday
however I heard that another person
was approaching the agents to purchase
it & so I got into touch with Mr
Greenland & after some further
negotiations agreed to purchase the
Hall & gardens & cottage & the two
plantations pond road etc for
Five thousand pounds - We calculate
that after allowing interest on the
£5000 at 5 ½ per cent we shall have
a profit on the rent & if in seven
years our finances enable us to go
then we should take up our residence
for the rest of our lives - And now
that another Richard Ferrier has
appeared on the scene there is
greatly increased interest in our
possessing the property - Madeline
& Ric are greatly delighted altho'
we have impressed upon them that
at present it must merely be
considered as an investment &
not as our residence –

[173] Full details of Hemsby Hall are included at reference above (f.n.164)

14 February 1920 - To day our
first grandson was christened at
Hemsby Church by Dr Willink the
Dean of Norwich - His names are
Richard Anthony Plowden Gurney
Ferrier. Richard the 14th or 15th of
the Yarmouth & Hemsby branch, Anthony
after Anthony Gurney our ancestor
Plowden his mothers name - Dear
old Willink came over out of
affection for me & performed the
service in a most beautiful & eloquent
way & delighted everybody - He & Mrs
Willink motored over from Norwich
The Woods, Doris' nurse & baby motored
over from Gorleston where they are
staying temporarily - Mr & Mrs Scrimgeour
from the Hall, the Misses Daniel
Miss Griffin, the Oakeleys, Mrs
Nightingale, were also there - Madeline
nursed the baby during the service
& handed him to the Dean & he
was as good as gold - Bertie acted
as proxy - We had a reception
afterwards which was most successful.

The Dean & Mrs Willink were most
kind - He interested us very
much by telling us about his two
days stay with H.M the King at
York Cottage Sandringham, & he
spent one afternoon over 2 hours
alone with the King & Queen - all
he said was most entertaining.
R.A.P.G. Ferrier - I regret that
his relatives insisted on the two
extra names - is a fine little
fellow & was much admired -

20 April 1920 Madeline, Judith, Bertie
& I came up to London last Thursday
the 15th for a short treat before Judith
left for school at Paris - We arranged
with Aubrey Grey & his sister Kathleen
to dine with us at Princes Restaurant [174]
& go on to see a play at the Aldwych Theatre
by Bernard Shaw called Pygmalean *(sic)* [175]
We accordingly had a very luxurious
dinner & had 5 stall seats in the
3rd row & much enjoyed the very
amusing play - I think I have
said that Grey was probably the last

[174] Princes Restaurant
[175] 1920 revival of *Pygmalion*

person who saw our dearest boy Rob alive
& we are doing what we can to keep in touch
with this connecting link - Yesterday we
saw Judith off at 7.50 AM by the Pulman [176]
train & were introduced to Miss Donaldson
one of the other new pupils - Judith's school
is kept by a Madlle Maniléve at 9 rue
d'Erlanger Paris 16e [177] & was selected after
very careful enquiry & consideration by Madeline
the other schools also considered were Miss
Wickstead, & Madame Arbell - but Madlle
Maniléve's was considered the best class
on the whole - Judith was very nervous
~~a~~ leaving home for practically a year after
having been away not more than twice in
her life & then only for a week - She is
however very determined to avail herself
of the advantages we can give her by sending
her to this school & intends to learn every
think (*sic)* she possibly can - It is a great
wrench to Madeline & to me to lose her
she has been everything in the world to
us & is sweet in every way, good tempered
very sympathetic & understanding & most
affectionate & thoughtful & perfectly devoted

[176] Pullman trains
[177] 9 rue d'Erlanger Paris 16e

to her mother - She is the most industrious
girl I ever met & is always making
notes about birds, trees etc etc - I dont
know what we shall do without her
she brings youth & joy into our house
& we all shall look forward to her
return - She reminds me so constantly
in manner of our Rob ! -

September 12 1920 The whole of August
we spent on a very delightful holiday.
~~We~~ Judith had passed her first term
at School in Paris at Mdlle Maniléve
9 rue d'Erlanger. All the time there
she had kept a full journal of her
life & doings & this she had sent to
us in weekly instalments - She
loved Paris & knows it very well
indeed - She made two particular
friends Mary Armstrong, daughter of
a retired naval officer a Sir John
Armstrong & Nell Joshua daughter
of a gentleman who lives in London
& has a country house at Blakeney
in Norfolk - The three girls became
very friendly & were known as "La Famille

Punchinello" Mary being 'Punch', Judith 'Judy' & Nell being 'Toby' - [178]

We started on our holiday by stopping & picking up Judith at Dieppe where she was staying with the Chevalliers - We all went straight to Aix Les Bains by the night train & stayed there for about ten days - ~~He~~ It was of course very hot but very delightful - We stayed at the "Hotel Grand et d'Albion" [179] & took many little excursions including Mont Revard, Lake Bourget, Le Grand Chartreuse, Chambery & many others - From Aix we went on to Chamonix & stayed at a very palatial Hotel called the 'Majestic Palace'. [180] From there we went to Glion sur Montreux where we stayed about a week but found Switzerland much more expensive & not nearly so lively as France so went on to Paris via Geneva - We stayed a few days in Paris & Judith showed us the sights we intended to go on for a few days

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[178] Punchinello, the Italian origin of Punch & Judy
[179] Grand Hôtel d'Albion
[180] Hôtel Le Majestic

to Dieppe but had to come home
suddenly in consequence of the sad &
sudden death of Joe Badeley while
sailing a yacht - We kept a
full journal of our holiday & shall
have it bound & placed with our
other holiday journals -

Judith has greatly benefited
by her Paris school - She is grown
& looks strong & is very attractive
& pretty - Ric & Doris have fixed
on their first house at No 37 Nelson
Road South Great Yarmouth which
I purchased for £550 - but which is
worth much more - This will be
quite suitable for the first few
years of their married life -

We are still in the Cottage & have
not settled anything yet as to our
home at any rate until we decide
about whether we shall ultimately
reside in Hemsby Hall -

Ric is going on quite satisfactorily
at the office - E.V. Barr's company
has purchased the Lowestoft Hippodrome [181]

[181] Lowestoft Hippodrome

and we have had to provide a
considerable amount of capital for it
but we hope that we shall obtain a
satisfactory return for our money in
the shape of dividends on our shares –

Christmas Day 1920 For several weeks we have
been considering the question of the great
expense involved in altering Hemsby
Lodge & making it a suitable home for
us & in view of the large expense reqd
between £3000 & £4000 to carry out the
work satisfactorily & of the fact that in
6 years we shall have Hemsby Hall with
its perfect equipment we have hesitated
to spend the money on the Lodge - So
we got into touch with Mr Scrimgeour
the present lessee of the Hall & after
protracted negotiations we have
agreed to buy the residue of his
lease for £3000 & take possession
in October 1922. We have been
able to sell the Lodge to Mr Chapman
Deputy Accountant General at Somerset
House for £2500 which gives us a
good profit. So now we must go

on quietly at the Cottage for two
years more - Madeline & I at Mr
Scrimgeour's invitation went over the
Hall & he showed us all the
improvements he had made & I must
say it is a perfect country house
with every modern contrivance - first
class electric light instalation a
grand billiard room & the bedrooms
5 bath rooms & all electrics done
in the best possible fashion - so we
shall I hope have a very comfortable
happy home for the rest of our
lives & be succeeded by Ric & Anthony
in due course - The Company in
which we are interested E.V. Barr Ltd
have opened the Hippodrome at
Lowestoft after thoroughly improving
it at a cost of about £10,000 -
& I hope it will earn good
dividends - Ric & Doris are getting
quite settled in their little
house at No 37 Nelson Rd S.
All the nicest people have called
upon them & they seem very popular

Maud Badeley, Nancy & Joey, & Ric
& Doris & Tony have spent this
Xmas with us & we have had a
very merry time - We had a very
merry dinner party today & drank
Tony's health -, with a hope that
he would one day be the Squire of
Hemsby & reside in Hemsby Hall -
Kate McDonald our cousin who
has spent the last 2 Xmases with
us is now over 80 & did not feel
she could undertake the journey &
visit this year so I wrote to her &
sent her a little present & told her
she would be in our thoughts -
Judith came back from her second
term at 9 Rue d'Erlanger Paris
& is very much improved in every
way she is a most attractive
pretty girl & bright alert & very
sweet & affectionate & very grateful
for what I have done for her
it is the greatest pleasure I have
& do everything I can & I hope her
life will be happy & smooth -

The loss of our dearest Rob is still
as poignant as ever, hardly a day
passes but we miss his loving personality
he would have been 21 had he not
been killed, & what a difference his
presence here with us would have
made in our lives nobody can
possibly imagine - Judith by the
intonation of her voice & in many
little mannerisms constantly reminds
us of him - Ric goes on most satisfactorily
at the office & I believe will become
a capital lawyer - We still have
our clerks Newman & Field who have
been with us about 30 years & we
have 8 or 9 other clerks - Business is
prospering satisfactorily - Madeline is
delighted we have now definitely
settled on our home

19th June 1921
Just filled in my third Census paper
The original census day was the
25th April last but it was postponed
until today through the Coal
Miners strike & threat of a general
strike [182] - our return is a very
small affair less even than
last time then Madeline & Judith
& a governess were with us & both
the boys were at school - This
time Madeline & Judith are
in London at 8 Gloucester Walk
Campden Hill - very nice lodgings
they have found up a couple of
minutes from the house where
Madeline was born - They are
on a shopping expedition -
Ric is staying with us - Doris &
the baby being in London at
the flat with her mother, &
our cook & man live in our
cottage practically adjoining our
house so are not included. The
other absentee is our dearest

[182] How Black Friday 1921 led to the census being postponed

sailor boy Rob whose loss to us here
is as poignant as ever & whom we
both constantly think of & lament
The Census paper is endorsed
Registration District 220
Ditto sub district 2
Enumeration District 3
Name - Richard F.E. Ferrier
The Cottage
Hemsby Norfolk
1. Richard Frederick Ernest Ferrier
Head of House - 56 years.
Male - Married Born Norfolk
Great Yarmouth - Solicitor &
Notary Public - Employer
Place of business 16 South Quay
Great Yarmouth.
2. John Albert Henry Ferrier,
Brother of Head of House 52 years
11 months - Male - Single Born
Norfolk Great Yarmouth, Solicitor
Employer - Place of business 16
South Quay Great Yarmouth
3. Richard Gournay Ferrier Visitor
(son of Head) 24 years & 7 months

Male - Married , Born Norfolk
Great Yarmouth, Articled Clerk
to Solicitor & Notary Public, place
of business 16 South Quay Great
Yarmouth - (noted in last column
as having <u>one</u> child aged 1 last
birthday)-

4. Frances Ellen Otty, Servant
aged 38 years 3 months, Female
single Born Norfolk Baconsthorpe -
Parlour maid - Private Service -
5. Ivy Rose Cook, Servant aged 20 years
(18th June 1921) Female, Single,
Norfolk Newport (Hemsby) Housemaid
Private Service -

<u>Absent</u>

6. Madeline Lucy Ferrier Wife aged
55 years 11 months - Female, married
Born London Kensington
7. Judith Madeline Ferrier, daughter
19 years 1 month ~~B~~ Female - Single
Born Norfolk Great Yarmouth
8. Mrs Sadler - Cook - lives at
cottage next door
9. Sadler - Man - lives next door

in my cottage with his wife & who
make separate return -
and
Robert England Ferrier, son
would have been 21 years & 6 months
Sub-Lieut R.N. of H.M. Hercules
& killed in action while serving temporarily
on board Destroyer "Partridge" while
convoying food ships across the North
sea on the 12th Decr 1917 -

Wednesday 20th July 1921

In connection with the formation of
a Society it is proposed to start for
preserving Ancient & historical buildings
in Norfolk I have made the acquaintance
of H.H. Prince Frederick Duleep Singh [183]
& he invited me to spend a few days
at his delightful house Blo'Norton
Hall.[184] I began my visit today ~~getting~~ going
this afternoon Prince Frederick
sent his motor to meet me at
Diss station where I was joined by
Dr Cross of Norwich who is also staying

[183] Frederick Duleep Singh
[184] Blo' Norton Hall

with Prince Frederick. The approach
to the Hall was very pretty & quaint
a beautiful long avenue straight
to the house in front of which is
a square garden with a fountain
in the centre it has geometric gardens
on each side & at the back with
a large park with magnificent
trees further round - The first
night we dined, Prince Frederick
Dr Cross & I, in a most interesting
room with Tudor stove, all the
furniture in keeping & the dinner
plates etc were silver. After
dinner we dawdled about the
gardens & park & talked about
Norfolk archaeological matters &
I was very much interested in
the intimate knowledge the prince
had about Norfolk families.
The whole house is entirely
Tudor & is furnished beautifully
to correspond. Prince Frederick
is a keen collector & has accumulated
a large amount of priceless antiques

The house has two rectangular
wings & I slept in the right
wing as you stand fronting the
back of the house. The next
day Thursday we motored to
Hadleigh in Suffolk picking up
Mr E. Farrer the great church
Herald [185] on his way who came
with us - We attended a meeting
of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology
& I addressed the meeting on the
details of the proposed Society
for the preservation of Ancient
Buildings - We motored back
after inspecting several old
buildings & after tea dawdled
about & had dinner Mr
Farrer joining our party.
Had a most interesting dinner
the discussion on archaeological
matters being continuous - My
bedroom was very quaint a lovely
old four poster bedstead with quaint
tapestry, there were quaint cupboards
for my clothes with lavender bags

[185] The Church Heraldry of Norfolk

in each drawer, a tiny dressing
room & a separate bathroom etc
Prince Frederick did not appear
till some time after breakfast
On ~~Thurs~~ Friday morning I
breakfasted alone, everything
being kept hot on the sideboard
for people as they turned up
After breakfast we wrote our
names in the Visitors book &
motored to the station Prince
Frederick coming with us -
I was a unique experience
& I exceedingly enjoyed my visit
Prince Frederick was most hospital (***sic)*** &
put himself out in every way
to make our visit as
pleasant as possible, he was
most courteous & kind & altho
his father was one of the principal
rulers (Maharajahs) of India
he was as modest as an ordinary
gentleman.

1921 October 2

Doris gave birth to a fine boy at
11.30 this evening - He is to be
called Robert Gurney - Ric rather
hoped it would be a girl but
now that it is a boy he consoles
himself with the fact that it will
be best for both boys that they
will be so nearly the same age
& prevent each from being made
too much of - They are still
living at No 37 Nelson Road South
Gt Yarmouth but hope to be able
to go into the country preferably
at Hemsby Cottage - Early in the
year we came to arrangements with
Mr Scrimgeour to purchase his
lease of Hemsby Hall & the boat
House, Beach Bungalow etc for
£2250 agreeing to take possession
the 10th October 1921. So we are
fixed to go into the Hall at
that date or soon after. We
are delighted with our new
home & think it is a most
suitable residence for us whose

family have been so closely
associated with Hemsby for so
many generations - Unfortunately
in June the post war slump set
in & our business & all our
investments have been entirely
unremunerative & our income
except for about £1500 a year has
ceased for the time but we
are hoping that by next summer
things will improve & that we
shall have our old income again
which will enable us to live quite
comfortably at the Hall & have
our motor car. Judith has
taken up our home here after
her return from Paris & is
devoting herself to her hobby
of Bird life. She is becoming
quite an authority on birds
of Norfolk & was invited by
the Secretary (Dr S.Long) [186] of the
Norfolk & Norwich Naturalists
Society [187] to become a member
She has also struck up an

[186] Dr Sydney Herbert Long
[187] Norfolk & Norwich Naturalists' Society

interesting acquaintanceship with
Mr Arthur Patterson [188] the author of
numerous books on natural history.
Ric has passed his examination on
law booking & been exempted from the
legal part of the Intermediate Exam
in consequence of his war service.
I want him to go in for the Inter-
mediate exam for the L.L.B London
& get the degree about the time he
qualifies as a Solicitor. We have
after a long time given to careful
consideration decided to purchase
the whole of the Cliff Park estate
at Gorleston which we hope for
many years will bring a volume
of prosperous business to the office
in conveyancing work, in addition
to selling the plots at a good profit
Madeline had an attack of rather
bad health in the summer & we
were advised to see Sir Thomas Horder [189]
an eminent physician & she saw
him twice & has gradually I am
very glad to say has regained

[188] Arthur Patterson
[189] Thomas Horder

her usual health. I saw Sir Thomas Horder also, & he gave me a very encouraging report & strongly advised me to keep up my golf regularly. & I am in very good health -

10 April 1922 We are still living in our cottage Hemsby Cottage & have not felt it convenient to move into Hemsby Hall yet in consequence of the terrible slump in all business & trade - I think we have done worse than at any time during the war & having parted with a large sum represented by payments to E. V. Barr Ltd in connection with the Hippodrome (about £8000) & £2500 to the Hall (Hemsby Hall) & several thousands to the Bank in reduction of overdrafts made for the Compys which we made ourselves responsible for we are left with very little liquid cash & our revenue which we anticipated, on the basis of the past three years average, at least £6000 between us has been nothing so

we are not able at the moment to lay
down further large sums as we have
to meet the current years liabilities
with no revenue - Of course we have
very large assets but it is difficult
to realize anything at the present
very bad state of financial matters
generally - However we are hoping
things will meend & are generally
marking time - We are all delighted
with the Hall & are looking forward
to the time when we shall live there
& enjoy the garden - Madeline is
not at all well I fear it is the horribly
cold winds we have had for the
last 3 months & I trust the warm
weather will do wonders for her
in the way of health & strength.
She has taken a great interest in
the Hemsby Women's Institute & is the
life & soul of it. We have purchased
a Wolseley car 25/30 HP [190] & got
it thoroughly upholstered &
thoroughly renovated in every way
for £600 - It is a 1914 engine

[190] Wolseley Motors

6 cylinder & all the best improvements
We have taken over Thresher the Scrimgeours
most careful chauffeur & although he
is rather expensive He combines the work
of motor man & electric light man. [191]
Judith through Joy Aitkins (the Vicar of
Yarmouth's daughter) has become a
member of the Girls Diocesan Society [192]
& has been to several meetings & taken
part in a miracle play & is much
interested in the work - Ric went
in for a short London Matricn Exam
with the view of ultimately obtaining
a L.L.B degree & possibly a B.A degree
He selected as his Matric subjects
Latin - Greek - English & Logic
& passed in all save the last -
& is allowed to go up for the logic
again in September - This work has
waked up his old interest in Classics
& restored most of his knowledge
gained at Radley. It has all
helped to supply the want of education
which he missed owing to the War
He stayed for a fortnight after his

[191] The independent electricity generator at Hemsby Hall would have required constant maintenance and attention
[192] The Girls' Diocesan Association

examn at Radley & much enjoyed
going over his old haunts & also
visiting Oxford - He has started
a fondness for books & buys copies
of Classics etc whenever he can get
them cheap -

7th December 1922 It is just eight
months since I made my last entry
Business improved a little during this
last summer & E.V. Barrs &Co's halls
showed a fairly satisfactory profit. The
Arcade is fully let & seems very popular
On August 11th last we moved into
Hemsby Hall nearly 10 months having
elapsed since the Scrimgeours left and
as we were paying all rents & rates &
other outgoings the only extra exxpense
in going into actual residence was
the three extra servants wages - We
are all perfectly charmed with the
house & garden. The rooms are large
airy & cheerful with the delightful
views into the garden & we have got
a magnificent billiard table of
light oak to match the panelling

of the room - this we bought at
the Filby House sale & was a
presentation table presented to Mr
Charles Lucas [193] by the late Baroness
Burdett Couts (*sic)* [194] - The Hall has
every modern contrivance, electric
light everywhere with switches
arranged in every possible place
for convenience so that you can
switch on the light downstairs &
switch it off upstairs - There are
four bathrooms with hot & cold
water for our use & one separate
one & lavatory upstairs on the 2nd
floor for the servants - The electric
light plant works automatically
as required as also does the electric
pump for forcing the water from
the well up to the large tanks at
the top of the house so that
we have an unlimited supply
of water both cold & hot. Madeline
has made the drawing very pretty (*sic)*
with our old china, & old table
& pretty furniture - She is entirely

[193] Charles Lucas, son of Reverend Charles Lucas
[194] Angela Georgina Burdett-Coutts, 1st Baroness Burdett-Coutts

wrapped up in the garden - We
have a splendid walled in
fruit garden which has kept
us supplied with fruit all
the summer & up to now - strawberries
Raspberries, currants, peaches,
apricots large pears apples, figs
& walnurs & cobnuts - We hope
that our business may improve
so that we can live here quite
comfortably without anxiety
about money - Ric & Doris
after spending a short time at
the Decoy farm at Little Ormesby
have moved into one of our
houses on the Gorleston Cliff Park
estate which up to the present
they are delighted with - ~~Ric~~
~~was~~ The position of Clerk to the
Rollesby Guardians, District Council
& assessment committee falling
vacant I arranged for Ric to send
~~for~~ in an application for it as
I knew the leading members &
altho they advertised for a fully

qualified solicitor they kindly
allowed his application to be
made - all my friends rallied
round me & I saw Charles Waters [195]
George Beck & Lacon & in the
result after a complete personal
canvas by Ric he secured the
job by a good majority of votes
Young Mr Crawford Jordan being
the runner up & Pearson a newly
come Solr being a bad third.
He at once decided to go in for
his final but failed to pull
it off as he had not sufficient
time & goes again in March
He is very fond of the law & I
think the responsibilities of the
appointment at Rollesby will
have a good effect on his
character - Judith is decoming
almost an authority on local
birds & has become friendly with
Patterson our local naturalist.
She is also determined to learn
shorthand & typewriting.

[195] C.W.Waters

Madeline has had better health
since she has been at the Hall
& I trust will go on improving
To day she opened a local
Bazaar & made a capital speech
I am I fear pledged to be Mayor
of Yarmouth next year and
look forward to it with much
fear & trepidation as my health
is not very robust - We are
hoping the money will not
trouble us if we have to take on
that office - Bertie & I go to the
office by the first train every
morning leaving our house at
8.25 AM - We are taking
definite steps about starting our
Town Arcade & have instructed
Haward [196] the architect to draft
plans for it - As the 12th Decr
approaches we think more & more
about our dearest Rob whose
personality is always with us - &
our grief at his terrible loss is
still a tragedy to us & we are

[196] Francis Haward, a partner in the architectural and surveying firm of Olley and Haward; designer of the 1914-18 War memorial in Great Yarmouth

constantly been reminded, every
day, of his memory - What a
bitter fate it was to snatch
him away from us, the greatest
tragedy in our lives -

31st December 1922 Sunday 11.30 PM.
Another year draws to a close
a year that has been unfortunate to
us in many respects - E V Barr &Cos Halls
have again been very unsuccessful &
made hardly any return, our hoped
for success in building eleven houses on
the Cliff Park estate has not been
fulfilled & it will probably result in
no profit - our business as Solicitors
has also been unsuccessful & we
have had to raise substantial sums
to meet capital liabilities for which
we were responsible. Madeline's
health has not been so good but
Judith has been fit & active -
On the other hand the year has provided
some good points for us - The great
event of the year has been our completing
the purchase of Hemsby Hall & moving

into it on August 11th, & we all
think it a most delightful home
Madeline has taken up her position
most cleverly as the lady of the
village & has I feel done a
lot of good work in connection
with the Women's Institute of which
she is President - & also in other
ways - We have also completed
the purchase of the Cliff park estate
& although it has not turned
out successful on the first venture
we feel it is so splendidly situated
as a building estate that it will
be a source of revenue to us for
many years - We have paid on
account of the purchase money
about £4500 & owe about £4000
more - We have also paid altogether
£3500 on a/c of the purchase of
Hemsby Hall & owe £3500 -
Our project of creating a Town
or Central Arcade [197] is tending more
to materialization & in the beginning
of the new year we are making

[197] Central Arcade

definite movements in opening
up negotiations with the tenant &
owner respectively of the two front
shops - If we can carry this scheme
through in 1923 we shall I hope
be relieved of further financial
anxiety - Ric during the year has
been unsuccessful with his exams
having failed to pass the Law portion
of the Intermediate - The logic paper
in the London Matriculation & the
Final exam. We were successful
in getting him the Flegg Council
appointment of Clerk - We all
trust & hope that the new year
1923 which begins in a few
minutes will inaugurate an era
of peace & prosperity for us all
& that we may see the probability
of our being able to have more
time for ourselves & be relieved
to some extent from the worries
& anxieties of a large business
I fear 19243 will not relieve
me of actual work as I am

morally bound to accept the Mayoralty
in November 1923 if my health
will allow - but I shall not
so much mind that if our
finances are not a great anxiety
& I hope during next year that
I may be able to write in this
journal that trade generally is
better & our halls & business & building
estates are prospering - Of course
at this time of the year our
dearest boy Rob is ever present
in our minds -

21 June 1923 Six months have passed
since I made the last entry.
Things have not improved - Business
is still bad all round & we
are relying on the next 3 months
to recover ourselves - The spring
has been very cold & wintry
We have had several of J's
friends today - Margaret Robertson
Peggy Hodge Margaret Julier
& have given several dinner
parties - one of 15 persons

Canon & Mrs Aitkin, Rev & Mrs Cross
(the new vicar of Ormesby) Mr & Mrs Henry
Wyllys - Col Thorpe & R Thorpe, M
& J Daniel & ourselves & Peggy Hodge
on the 21 June - Ric I am glad
to say passed the final & was
admitted a solicitor on June 1st
today he starts off for a short
trip to Switzerland as all his
work has made him run down
somewhat - Doris is just back
after a months trip in town with
her people - I hope things will
improve between them, at present
she is hopeless - We have progressed
a little further with our Central
Arcade & A E Lark an accountant
is endeavouring to negotiate for the
purchase of Levine's shop which
we want to complete our site
If we can only get this arcade
built it will ease things for the
rest of our lives & afterwards
We have made satisfactory
financial arrangements about the

Cliff Park estate so that we
shall not be called upon to
pay anything off our purchase
money, unless we wish or are
able, for eight years - We
still have to pay £1000 a yr
& interest off the Hippodrome
& £1000 to the BR for the same
a/c - unfortunately the Hipp
is earning nothing at present
so it is somewhat a strain
to raise these funds -

9th November 1923
To day I was unanimously
elected Mayor of Yarmouth
The Election was moved by Mr
E.W. Worlledge the leader of
the Conservative party and seconded
by the Member of Parliament Mr
Arthur Harbord,[198] in very eulogistic
terms - my speech returning
thanks for my election was very
well received & the papers after-
-wards referred to it as a "notable
speech" I personally was very

[198] Arthur Harbord

averse to taking office but I had
been pressed to do so for so many
years that coupled with ~~this~~ the
family tradition made me no longer able
to refuse the election - I am the seventh
mayor provided by my family &
the 21st member of the Yarmouth
Town Council dating from 1690 -
My grandfather, my father & myself
accounting for 80 years membership.
Madeline has taken up the work
most enthusiastically & has greatly
helped me, I could not possibly
have undertaken the work but for
her interest & help - she made a
speech after our Mayoral luncheon
& delighted the people who were
there - It is somewhat unfortunate
that just at present we are not
well supported financially as all
our various undertakings & our
business are showing the worst returns
we have experienced for years - but
we hope the bad times will not
continue & better luck may return

Our building estates have made
some progress which has helped
us - We are most comfortable in
our beautiful home Hemsby Hall
& when our finances are easier we
shall be as happy & comfortable
as any one in the world could
possibly wish - I intend to keep
a journal & a cuttings book of
everything relating to our Mayoralty
as I feel it will be interesting
to future members of my family -
The Norfolk & Norwich Archaeological
Society [199] of which I have been a
member since 1892 has done me
the great honour to make me a
Vice President -

December 25 1923 We have just finished
one of our biggest Mayoral days.
We started off from Hemsby Hall in
our car at 10.15 & got to St.
Nicholas Church at 10.45 for the
service we sat in the nave on the
right side about 3 pews behind
the Corporation pew - Then we went

[199] Norfolk & Norwich Archaeological Society

to the Fisherman's Hospital [200] & saw &
shook hands with each inmate &
wished them a merry Xmas & a happy
new year & I gave each of the 38
old people a 2/6 ~~ea~~ for which they
were very pleased & grateful. The
Vicar & Mrs Aitkin & W.H. Bayfield
one of the Trustees accompanied us -
We then visited the Girls' Breydon
Home [201] & caught the girls just finishing
dinner, they were all very delighted
to see us & gave us several rounds
of lusty cheers - We left them a
good cake with icing & a 'merry Xmas'
worked on it - They all cheered
again when Madeline said they
should come over to Hemsby again
this summer The Matron Miss
Vallender seems to exercise a good
influence & they all seem most
happy - We then went to the office
& ~~ate~~ ate a few sandwidges (*sic)* &
had some hot coffee & Thresher
& Powles the "Mayors Friend" also had
some sandwidges - We then went

[200] Fisherman's Hospital
[201] Breydon Home

to Gorleston & visited the Children's Homes [202] - There were four Homes in charge of Sisters & Miss Buckley a very nice north country woman was Matron over all the 'Homes'. We saw the small girls sing their song & we gave them each a toy & a mince pie - The larger girls also sang to us & one small girl gave a recitation on her own initiative We also gave them each a toy & a mince pie - The small boys were very smart & saluted us when we gave them their presents & the larger boys were even smarter & sang quite well - We were much struck at the fact that four 'old boys' returned to the Home to spend their 'leaves' - There were 2 of them in the navy one as a Boy & smaller one as Wireless operator & one going in for the Mercantile Marine & one was at some work in Yarmouth - We gave all the Home boys a toy &

[202] Gorleston Children's Homes

a mince pie & I had a good talk
with the sailor boys & gave them an
account of Aubrey Greys brave
conduct & wished them every success
& gave them half a crown each -
I made a note in the visitors book
as Mayor expressing my satisfaction
at all we have seen ~~conf~~ commenting
particularly on the compliment it
was to Miss Buckley & the management
generally that four boys came back
to the Home to spend their Christmas
leave - Then to the Gorleston Cottage
Hospital [203] & shook hands with the
Patients who were only eight in
number & left them toys - Before
we left Yarmouth I forgot to say
that we went to the Yarmouth
workhouse [204] where the Vicar, Shaw
the Infirmary doctor, the Deputy
Mayor & a large number of
Guardians with the Master & Matron
welcomed us - We went through all
the Wards & shook hands with all
the inmates except the imbeciles

[203] Gorleston Cottage Hospital
[204] Yarmouth Workhouse

& they all seemed very pleased to
receive the Mayor & his good
wishes & a packet for the women of
tea fingers & for the men a packet
of Tobacco - It was a very
interesting hour spent here & the
variety of character extraordinary
there were many old women between
80 & 90 years old some even over
90 who had just had a big dinner
& were enjoying huge chunks of
rich plum pudding when we
visited them. There was only one
man who had any faults to find
the brother of John Buckle the Printer
but I heard that he always had
some groundless grievance - I shook
hands with all the inmates & also
the Guardians & others there & they
thro the senior guardian present
(E.J. Middleton) ~~tha~~ expressed
their thanks at the honor I had
done them by our visit as Mayor
& Mayoress. We finished up our
day by visiting my old haunt

the General Hospital,[205] we went
through all the wards spoke to all
the patients & also saw all the
children & left them a large
cake for the Xmas tea we saw
the house surgeon & the matron Miss
Barwell conducted us round &
introduced the Sisters & nurses to
us. We left the Hospital at 5
and arrived home at Hemsby at
5.30 having spent 7 hours of
our Xmas day in a very interesting
& I trust acceptable work to those
whom we visited.

Monday 14 January 1924 . Went over to
Norwich today with W.E.Stephens
the Town Clerk to hold our first
statutory meeting of the Norfolk
Archaeological Trust (N.A.T.) [206]
which I have at last in the face
of great opposition been able to
get incorporated as a Society limited
by guarantee without the addition
of the word "Limited" it being a Society
not for profit - There were present

[205] Yarmouth General Hospital
[206] Norfolk Archaeological Trust

J Waller President, Prince Frederick
Duleep Singh. W.R. Rudd, Basil
Cozens-Hardy, Dr Astley , Miss Helen
Colman, W.E.Stephens all members
of the Council - I conducted the
meeting & got the various formal
resolutions passed & so after nearly
2 years work & striving the Trust for
the preservation of ancient buildings
in Norfolk is a fait accompli -
I was thanked by the President for
my long & successful work - At
the meeting of the Norfolk & Norwich
Archaeological Society held last
month I was elected a Vice
President of that society - an honour
which I did not expect would ever
be confirmed on me - Madeline
& I are getting used to the work
of the Mayoralty & so far we have
been most successful -

April 3 1924 H.H. Prince Frederick
Duleep Singh M.V.O - F.S.A
came for a short visit to us
at Hemsby Hall arriving at 6 pm

in his car accompanied by his chauffeur
& valet - We had a very nice dinner
for him only our own party being
present - Madeline, Judith Bertie & I
Ric & Doris whom we wanted to share
the honour with us could not come
as there was not room for them in
the car to go to the Archaeological
Annual Meeting at Yarmouth for
which meeting the Prince has come
in order to give a lecture on Norfolk
Manor Houses - The meeting was
most successful & a record in point
of numbers - I was unanimously
elected president on the motion of
E.W. Worlledge - W.R. Rudd the Secy
of the Parent Society made a speech
& eulogised my work as an Antiquary
Prince Fredericks lecture was very
interesting & I proposed a vote
of thanks & he repiled thanking
me for my work - We got back
to Hemsby at 10.45 & had a very
good supper which we all were
very ready for - We sat up very

late & talked about Heraldry &
he was very interested in our Coat
with 6 quarterings & especially the
Gurney quartering with a canton
We showed him the pedigree of
Waunci who was in the doomsday
survey down to ourselves - We
also showed him our little silver
dolls tea service & he promised to
look up the reference letters on the
silver. He had the large South
East bedroom which Madeline
had made very attractive. His
two men slept in Tyler our
gardeners house & had the gun
room for their meals - We found
him a very courteous English
gentleman & very pleased with
everything. M had a long talk
with him about the arrangements
of our garden -

I am glad to say our building
estates are selling better & the

proceeds of the sales have been very
useful during these bad times.
  The Hippodrome Lowestoft has
had much better trade but the
'Palace' the other hall at Lowestoft
has done very badly lately - We
are arranging for the Company to
do some additions & alterations
including a good entrance on London
road & a fine vestibule &
tea room - Both Madeline & I
are rather worn out with the
work of the Mayoralty but every
body has been most kind &
anxious to do all they possibly
could to make things pleasant

10 November 1924 To day I attended the
meeting of the council when Mrs.
Ethel Leach [207] was elected Mayor in
my place & I place the Mayoral
chain around her neck, the first
time a Lady has worn the chain
of office for 700 years - Mr Jno
Goode moved in very eulogistic
terms a vote of thanks to me for my

[207] Ethel Leach

work as Mayor, He referred to me
as sitting in my study with portraits
of my ancestors round me &
imagined them, as in the advertisement
of Walkers Whiskey,[208] coming out
of their frames not to help them-
-selves to the whiskey as in the advert
but to shake me by the hand &
say "well down (*sic)* Richard Ferrier"
Arthur Harbord the late member
of the Boro' seconded & said by
my kindness & thoughtful conduct
I had endeared myself to every
member of the council - How
rapidly the year has passed
& what a full year it has been
the chief things which will have
a permanent effect on the town
will be the decision to have a
new bridge - the purchase of
the Barrack Square site,[209] the
Maygrove site [210] & the new gardens
at the Gorleston (*sic)* - Every body has
treated us with the greatest possible

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[208] Johnnie Walker 1920s Adverts
[209] Great Yarmouth Barracks
[210] Maygrove estate

loyalty & kindness - We gave two
very large garden parties at hemsby
Hall & had various bodies over
including Bowling tournaments, tennis
matches, Discharged Prisoners Aid
Society - Elementary Masters & teachers
& pupils in connection with Madeline's
Natural History competition.
Dinner parties to the ex mayors &
many private dinner parties.
I gave a large dinner at Goodes [211]
rooms to the Council Magistrates
& public officials & a dinner of
150 people was given in my
honor at the Town Hall when
I spoke for 40 minutes & ran
through a survey of my mayoralty
I am very glad I have been
Mayor as I now feel I have
completed my duty to the town
I have been appointed Deputy
Mayor by Mrs Leach the new
Mayor - Madeline is rather worn
out & we are arranging to get away
for a holiday early in the year -

[211] Goodes Hotel

On the 10th November (today) I presented to the Corporation a copy of the Portrait of Major Richard Ferrier [212] my great grandfathers' great grandfather - He was Bailiff in 1696. Mayor 1706 & 1720 & MP for the 3 parliaments of 1708, 1710 & 1713. He was the son of a Bailiff the grandson of a bailiff & the father of a Mayor - Mr Alderman Swindell moved a vote of thanks for the gift & referred to the large amount of public work done by my Ancestors during the last 300 years - The words of the resolution of thanks to me for my Mayoralty are as follows:-
That this Council do tender to the Ex-Mayor (Mr Alderman Richard Frederick Ernest Ferrier F.S.A) a most hearty vote of thanks for the efficient & loyal ~~way~~ services which he has so faithfully, assiduously & zealously rendered as Mayor & Chief Magistrate of this ancient Borough during the

[212] 'Journal of Major Richard Ferrier while travelling in France in the year 1687'

year 1923-24, and for the courtesy
dignity & impartiality with which he
has presided over the deliberations of
this council, thus maintaining and
following the example of his ancestors
who, in the past centuries, served
this Borough in various offices -
And that they do further tender
their thanks to Mrs Ferrier for the
gracious & pleasant way in which
she has associated herself with
the many social and other functions
which have taken place during her
husbands ~~mayoralty~~ year of office"
Mr Alderman Arthur Harbord until
recently the MP for the Borough
seconded the resolution which
was carried by acclamation.
A full report of the various
speeches including my speech at
the dinner given in my honor &
that given to the Grammar Scool
boys on their speech day will be
fully printed in the Yarmouth
Mercury of the 15th Novr 1924

Two unique matters occurred in
my mayoralty :- one was the
fact that I was returning officer
in two parliamentary elections
I received the Writ to hold an
election in each & returned the
writs duly endorsed with the
name of the member & carried out
in its entirety the work of the
Election. The other matter the
honor of assistance in receiving
H.M The Queen [213] & HRH The Duchess
of York [214] on their coming to Norwich
to see a performance on one
morning of the N & Norwich Centenary
Festival.[215] I was requested to
attend with my chain of Office
& with Lord Albermarle [216] was at
the entrance when the Queen arrived
& was presented to the queen & the
Duchess & they shook hands -
I was allotted a seat in the front
row of the stalls next to the Countess
of Leicester [217] who was next to Lord
Albermarle & he was next to the

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213 Queen of King George V
214 Elizabeth Angela Marguerite Bowes-Lyon later Queen of King George VI
215 The first Norfolk and Norwich festival following World War One
216 Arnold Keppel, 8th Earl of Albemarle
217 Alice Coke, Countess of Leicester

Duchess of York & the Queen, so I
had a splendid view of the Queen
Madeline & I were also invited by
the Bishop to the luncheon party
at the Palace given to the Queen
there were forty there most of them
the Royal Entourage & Sir Henry
Woods [218](*sic)*, Dr Bates & Reeve Hansell
& Morgan the Officials of the Festival
I sat between the Countess of Kimberley [219]
& Lady Hastings [220] & nearly opposite
the Queen & the Duchess. We had
cards given us containing the
names & the places at table of all
the guests - We afterwards took
coffee in the drawing room where
the Royal Party were, & we all
signed our names in the Bishop's
visitors book , which was afterwards
photographed & published in the
E. Daily Press - Madeline & I were
formerly (*sic)* presented to H.M The Queen
& the Duchess of York before the
luncheon -

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[218] Sir Henry Wood
[219] Frances Margaret Wodehouse, Countess of Kimberley
[220] Marguerite, wife of Albert Astley, 21st Baron Hastings of Melton Constable

October 17th 1925 It is nearly a
year since I made my last entry
in this journal. I have nearly
completed my year as Deputy Mayor
to Mrs Ethel Leach the Mayor - She
has not called upon me to do very
much but what little I have done
she has been extremely grateful for
& consulted me in several important
matters connected with the Mayoralty
The Act of Parliament for the construction
of the new bridge received the Royal
Assent in August last [221] - I was present
at the Committee of the House of Commons
which dealt with the matter & gave
their approval - Early in the year we
sold the Gorleston Coliseum Theatre [222] to
a Mr Noel Hill a London Barrister
who is now carrying it on - He has
also approached us to sell the Palace
Theatre & The Hippodrome at Lowestoft
but I don't think we shall come
to terms. We sold the Coliseum at
a decent profit & as it was not
doing very well it was a satisfactory

[221] Great Yarmouth Haven Bridge Act 1925
[222] Coliseum Gorleston

transaction for us. We have been engaged over the proposed new Arcade leading from King Street opposite Regent Road to Regent Street where there is to be an entrance on the site now partly occupied by the Independent News office [223] & Madam Brown milliner (28 & 28A Regent Street) We had many interviews with the Directors of Barclays Bank both at Norwich & Yarmouth about the loan & ultimately we got them to consent to advance £34000 upon security of the arcade site & building, on land worth £11000 at Gorleston on land on the High Mill Road Cobholm worth £10000 & on a Debenture for £10000 on the Hippodrome so with the value of the arcade itself & these extras they will hold securities worth nearly £100 000, to cover the advance of £34000 - We have pulled down all the property except the fronts comprising over 50 houses - We had to go to considerable expense to provide other houses for the tenants to go to as the law at present prohibits owners

[223] Yarmouth Independent

of houses from any legal action to get vacant
possession of their own properties - We had in
some cases to purchase decent houses at high
prices for the accommodation of those in houses
on the arcade site. We are rather anxious
about the success of the Arcade, We have
entered into a contract for the building of
it with Mr. B. L. Beech at £16988 &
this is to be completed in June next, at
present we have only let about 11 shops
out of 39 but we hope we shall let
them all before next September as otherwise
the Bank may press for the repayment of
their advance which would be awkward
The owner of the front (N.E corner) shop
Mrs Levine has given us a lot of trouble
& at this moment we cannot get her to
accept a reasonable figure for its
purchase - We bought the next shop to
hers occupied by Aldred Silversmiths [224] &
which is a much better property although
not nearly so deep for £3100 but when
we have suggested the high price of £6000
she has asked £7000 & when we asked
her to make a definite offer to sell

[224] Aldreds (Scroll down in the link)

for £7000 she then said she wanted £8000.
It is important for us to have it as we can
make satisfactory terms with Freeman Hardy
& Willis [225] the present tenants for a long lease -
During the illness of Prince Frederick I presided
at the Annual Meeting of the Norf & Norwich
Archaeological Society in the Council Room
in the Guildhall Norwich & also on two or
three occasions of excursions. Dr Pollock
Bishop of Norwich [226] lunched with us one
day & was very pleasant & interesting &
Lord Phillimore [227] stayed with us the night
of October 16-17-1925, He was at the
Admiralty Bar & made a high court judge
& subsequently a Lord Justice of Appeal
& was created a peer in 1918. He was very
interesting & told us a lot of tales about
lawyers - He came down to speak at
a meeting of the League of Nations which
Ric had got up. Ric is still very keen
on the L of Ns & is the local chairman
He has been living at Gorleston for the last
year but they have been hankering after
a house in the country although I was against
it after their experience in Decoy Farm Ormesby.

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[225] Freeman Hardy & Willis was a major chain of footwear retailers.
[226] Bertram Pollock
[227] Baron Phillimore

& especially as we had put ourselves to some
inconvenience in helping to buy the house at
Gorleston, but he made up his mind that
he could sell the Gorleston house at a
sufficient profit to pay off the mortgage
& the amount advanced for his extra
furniture so we could not object. This
he was able to do & he has taken a
7 years lease of the Rectory House at
Somerton built by Karron the rent being
£52 a year. I fear he will find it
more expensive than he can afford but
he is quite satisfied that he can manage
alright. Doris says she is perfectly delighted
with the house so I hope all will be
well - Ric has a good bit of work to do
for his appointments & the extra work
they bring. I fear he gives up too much
time to them to the sacrifice of office
work which of course is more
remunerative but we have decided to
give him a partnership by which he will
have a minimum share of £600 against
his present salary of £500 - he is to have
a third share of all profits (including all

appointments) so I hope he will have a greater incentive to increase the business of the office - Judith continues to devote herself to Bird study & the Girls' diocesan Association - She was asked to act as one of the Honorary Judges for the Norfolk Elementary Schools competition in Natural History & examined about 1200 different essays - She has stayed several times with Miss E.L.Turner on Scolt Head [228] helping her watch migrations. She has been appointed Study Secretary for Norfolk in the G.D.A. & is very proud of it. She is extraordinarily industrious & painstaking & is much respected by all the girls - she also makes many friends. She is very level headed & is very thoughtful & most attractive Old Patterson the Yarmouth naturalist who is a great admirer of hers describes her in his peculiar way as "Wholesome" She is a great joy to M & me & we miss her very much when she is away - Her great friend is Nell Joshua whom we all call 'Toby'

[228] Emma Louise Turner on Scolt Head

Her mother has a house at Wiverton *(sic)*
& Judith has stayed with her & she
has stayed with us - She is a very
clever girl her mother is really a
German & connected with many well-
-known German wealthy people - In
the spring this year we stayed for
3 weeks in London at very nice
lodgings No 8 Gloucester Walk
Campden Hill & went down to
Backwell nr Bristol to visit the
Mileses & took several motor trips
round the country district including
the Cheddar Gorge - We also spent
a day in Bath & drank water in
the Pump room. They have a very
nice house old fashioned &
quaint. Patty, Lilly's daughter
is a charming little personage
While in London we saw many
films for recommendation to Barr's
company & also went to several
Theatres & saw comic operas &
plays. During the year we have
done much better with the Halls.

but very badly with our building
estates - we have sold only one or two
sites & had to pay the large interest
on the mortgages which more than
absorbed the receipts for the plots.
Thrasher our chauffeur became too
feeble for long drives so we arranged
for him to leave & start as a motor
engineer in a shop we own in the
village - We have got a very nice
fellow - Starkings - as our new
chauffeur - Madeline for the first
time for many years has had some
trouble about servants & for about
two months we were minus a cook
but Frances our housekeeper came
up to the scratch & 'saw us through'
E.W. Worlledge who for many
years was a prominent public man
died in August & had a very
grand funeral - I was elected as
~~fou~~ Chairman of the Governors of
the Grammar School & High School
in his place & also as the Corporation
representative on the Port & Haven

Commission.[229] I was most kindly
welcomed by the Chairman & all the
members when I took my place.
I consequence of Worlledges death
the duty of finding a Mayor for
next year fell upon me & after
interviews with Beavor, Arnott,
Nightingale Chapman & Goode, I
succeeded in getting A.W. Yallop [230]
a leading shop keeper to accept the
office - Madeline, I, Bertie & Judith
have lead quiet lives without
much exccitement in our lives
We constantly think of our dearest
Rob who is rarely absent from
our thoughts - We are ~~also~~ paying
a lot of attention to the new Arcade
& are extremely anxious about it
M & my health has been quite
good, I saw Horder in May &
he was quite satisfied with his
examination - Things at Hemsby
have been quiet Chapman our
neighbour at the Lodge has quarrelled
with the Vicar & given up the Church Council

[229] Great Yarmouth Port & Haven Commission
[230] Also a noted local photograher

Madeline has got up a thriving Womens'
Unionist Association [231] & got rather wrong
with Jones who was against women
doing anything. I am now trying
to establish a Men's Association
in Hemsby - I do not think I have
mentioned in this journal anything
about our dogs about 2 years ago
Judith with Madelines assistance &
advice purchased a prize Irish setter
whom we called Raoul de Bragalonne [232]
He was much beloved of the household
& was almost human - His shining
dark red coat & large brown eyes
attracted everybody & Judith & he
were companions. However he developed
a bad cold which we thought might
be distemper but this the vet Wilkinson
scoffed at & said it was a cold -
I fear he was wrong as he developed
pneumonia & altho Madeline Judith
& Frances sat up for 3 nights with
him he died on the third morning
leaving Judith very much upset
she had him buried in the garden
near the gate leading to the East

[231] Women's Unionist Organisation
[232] Named after a character in a Dumas novel

woods - After some months during which we considered the question of getting another dog & M & J also fully considered the kind of dog we should get they decided on a Chow dog & a very perfect little puppy was obtained. He is just a year old & has grown a wonderfully strong big dog. He struts about with his tail curled & we call him General Fombombo from a novel we were reading at the time he arrived called the (*sic)* [233]
He is very affectionate but does not allow any liberties & flies at once mostly in play but rather effectively if one goes too far - He is a great favourite with the household & Madeline I think is fonder of him than she was of Raoul although she denies it -

Saturday 19 February 1927 It is 16 months since I made my last entry in this journal . Not much has happened. Joe Badeley

[233] Fombombo, by Thomas Sigismund Stribling

has married Miss Holmes whom he
met in an hotel in Harrogate
where she was playing ~~fi~~ a fiddle for
the amusement of the visitors, but is
a nice girl I believe & of very
respectable parentage. She went out
to him at Shanghai - Most
unfortunately there have been great
disturbances in China for the last
6 months almost amounting to civil
war with spiteful feeling almost
amounting to a boycot against the
European residents in Hong Kong
& Shanghai - To day it is most [234]
serious, 8000 troops & 21 war
ships have been sent there by England
& large numbers from other European
nations to safeguard their
people. We are wondering whether
Joe's legal firm will be able to
carry on & if not what Joe will
do - We went for a two months
holiday to Corrnwall & Devon
chiefly owing to the advice given
me by Horder - as I haven't had

[234] Shanghai Defence Force

a real holiday for 4 or 5 years.
Sir Thomas Horder who thoroughly
examined me in January this year
for the first time seriously advised
me to take things easier as my
blood pressure is high due probably
to indigestion & irregular blood
circulation, although he said my
arteries are not hard & nothing is
likely to happen if I am careful
I am not 62 until June and
as I am very abstemious, have not
smoked or drank any ~~ach~~ alcohol
for some time I think I ought to get
my blood pressure down with
still greater care & fresh air -
Madeline is in about the same
health but she still takes medecine
for her kidney trouble, she is very
thin but I believe very wiry; &
I trust will have fairly good
& improving health as time goes
on - Judith & I could not face

it if she were really ill - she is so necessary to every body - & so bright & cheerful & interested & helpful in everything - I must do all I possibly can by taking her away for pleasant trips & ~~sh~~ seeing she has as little responsibility as possible, to keep her in good health - Judith is very busy with her bird & tree work & lecturing to girl guides & doing her work as County Representative for the Girls' Diocesan Society - Bertie & I have been very busy indeed about our new Central Arcade. It was completed about October & contains 47 shops. 32 of which have been let to leading tradesman & multiple shops - It is a very great improvement We are at present anxious about arranging an advance of about 25,000 & think we can provide the rest of the money. My public work is very great - Chairman of 3 committees of the Council - Watch, [235] Parliamentary & Legal, & Free Library

[235] Watch Committee

and Rep for Corpn on Port & Haven
Commission - The Lord Chancellor
appointed me a J.P. for Yarmouth
no other J.P. being appointed in 1925
Nancy Badeley - Mauds daughter,
paused in her studies to become a
Dr [236] & went with Sir E & Lady Gompertz [237]
to Hong Kong & other places for a 6
months trip & is in Hong Kong at
the present time. Ric is very
keen on his appointment work for
which he is directly responsible
to his council - & has received
another appointment as Clerk to the
new rating authority for four district
councils in East Norfolk - He does
not quite show the interest I think
he ought, in the practice & leaves
the work & responsibility to the
clerks. He does not seem able
to apply himself to details, this
may be due to the years spent in
the army as a very young man -

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[236] Died March 10, 1957, in London, Nancy Marion Badeley, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., of 1, Gunterstone Road, London, W.

[237] Probably Sir Henry Gompertz

We have the most comfortable &
beautiful home we could possibly
have - Madeline loves her garden
& we have 7 good indoor servants
all of whom are most efficient
particularly the cook who was
formerly first kitchen maid with
Princess Mary - Rics children
& as well as Ric have had bad
experience as to their health. They
had influenza in Decr & Janry last
& all developed bad ear trouble
& Tony the eldest son had to have
a mastoid operation by Dr Everitt
of Norwich which was quite successful.
We have had our dearest Roberts
medals framed & put up in the
dining room altho' we dont want any
thing to remind us of him
as he is constantly in our thoughts

Sunday 15 January 1928 It is
nearly a year since I made
my last entry. Nothing of any
particular moment occurred in

1927 - I have taken things a
little easier at the office, not
working so closely after lunch
I have also reduced my lunch
knocking off meat & taking ovaltine
& milk & a lightly boiled egg &
a few biscuits & I think I am
in much better health, able
to walk well & do my work
without any particular effort
& also to carry on the large
amount of public work I
do - Some day I must write
down a list of my public &
private work - Madeline has
been in fairly good health,
she loves motoring, particularly
in the front seat of our little
car with Judith driving. They
have made many excursions
in this way. They had what
might have been rather an
alarming accident while
motoring round Torquay at

the end of October last, Judith
was bringing our little Morris car
out of the Hotel 'Hydro' [238] where they
were staying, hugging the left side
& going very slowly round the
corner, when a big Daimler driven
by a Scotsman called Baird
crashed round the corner on
his wrong side into the front
of our car which fortunately had
only got the bonnet of the car
round, the front of the little
car was smashed up but the
body where Madeline & Judith
were sitting escaped - The
car was rendered useless even
for repair & after many interviews
with the insurance people & much
correspondence they paid me
£85 which resulted in a loss
of about £50 - Directly I heard
about this I made arrangements
for them to meet me in London
when I expected to find them rather

[238] Now the Headland Hotel. Built for the Romanovs, the ruling Russian Imperial dynasty, in the nineteenth century as a private house, it was known as Villa Syracusa.

upset by shock, but I was relieved
to find that the feeling that moved
them at the time of the collision
was one of wrath at the careless
way the man had behaved - But
I thought it better not to allow
Judith to go on being unable to
drive thro' want of a car, in
case she might develop a
feeling of nervousness so I took
her to the motor show which
was then being held & bought
a new model 1928 Morris Cowley [239]
car. A day or two afterwards
she drove the car home from
London - Our Arcade has
proved a popular promenade
& shopping centre & we have
let about 40 of the 47 shops
quite a good proportion, as it
was no easy matter to let
40 new shops in a small
town. We were able to arrange
a mortgage of ~~4~~ 30,000 with

[239] 1928 Morris Cowley

the Legal Victoria Friendly Society at 5 ¾ per cent without any personal liability on ourselves, we having formed a limited liability Coy called the "Yarmouth Central Building Estate" Limited, we taking half the shares each. After paying the interest I think we shall receive over £4000 a year between Bertie & me - We made fresh arrangements for reduction of the mortgage of £5000 on the Marine Arcade by £100 a year only so after paying the interest, instalment & Ground rent of £425 a year to the Sufflings we get about £1200 a year from that property between us - We are also getting a good revenue, after paying interest & ground rents of about £3000 to £4000 between us from the four Cinemas which we now practically own - The building estates are also beginning to show a good profit so we are now in easy

if not affluent circumstances. I
have transferred, including some of
Madelines money, about £5000
to Judith so this will produce
£250 a year & there will be no
death duties to pay & I shall
save a certain amount in Income
tax on the amount she receives
from her investments - My great
desire is to make her safe, apart
from the office, in having sufficient
income ~~fro~~ for her requirements.
I hope to transfer further sums
to her as time goes on - Ric will
be very well off & I think I
have, by my method in making
him manage on a fairly small
income, thoroughly learnt to
economise so when he gets
more money at my or Madelines
death he will not waste it
& if the labour govt [240] deprives
people of most of their unearned
income ~~at~~ he will have learnt

[240] Labour government of 1929

to do without the extra money –
I do not think I mentioned that
much to Judiths gratification she
was unanimously elected a Member
of the British Ornithological Union
(M.B.O.U) without any solicitation
on her part. On the suggestion of
Capt Pike a well known bird lecturer
I enquired for her as to the conditions
of election & the Secretary without
waiting for a formal application
put her up on his own account
explained to the meeting what work
she had done, especially in
conjunction with Miss Turner
& many famous naturalists (including
Lord Rothschild supported & voted
for her - I am very happy in my
own public work the things ~~on~~
I am chiefly interested in are
The Free Library, Watch Committee
& The Grammar School & High
school of which I am Chairman
also Corporation work generally.

Ric Doris & the two boys are
very happy & comfortable in
their very pleasant home at
West Somerton about 3 miles
from us. They have their little
car which makes it easy to get
into Yarmouth whenever they
want to - Tony is just 8 & Robert
6 ½ - Tony is a thoughtful nice
lad very careful & methodical
while Robert is much more
active & rather better at mental
arithmetic, I think Robert gains
a great advantage in being the
second son which will stand
him good stead all his life
in being made to put up with
things now - Madeline & I
and Judie are very happy
together in our charming home
we are hoping to be able to
make delightful tours & trips
when the weather is cold &
raw in East Norfolk, to warm

climes - I have had the very high
honor conferred upon me of
being appointed the President of
the Norfolk & Norwich Archaeological
Society, my predecessors being Mr
John Walter of Drayton Hall, H.H
Prince Duleep Singh & Lord Orford [241]

18 January 1928 Partnership Assets

Marine Arcade less mortgage £5000 =	20.000
Gem Hall	14.000
Empire "	16.000
West Cliff estate	1.000
Ditto extension (Pound Lane)	6.000
Yarmouth Building Scy shares	1.000
Ground rent on 3 halls £750 less £10000 mtge	4.000
Gorleston Cliff estate less mtge £7000	12.000
Lowestoft Palace & houses (less mortgage)	12.000
Green Cap estate less mortgage	1.000
West Town estate	2.000
Y&G shares	2.500
Hippodrome including deb less mtge	19.000
Central Arcade less mtge £30,000	70,000
Equities & sundries	7.000
less MMB 2300	---
NPB 2300	187.500
	4.600
my half = £91500	---
in addition ½ H Hall & ~~ever~~	say £183000
various sums in War Loan	

[241] Robert Walpole, 5th Earl of Orford

18 January 1928 Appointments present & past

1. Lord of the Manor of Hemsby.
2. Lord of the Manor of Martham Morgraves
3. Lay Rector of Hemsby.
4 Patron of Living of Hemsby.
5. Hemsby School Manager
6. Vice chairman of Church Council
7. Trustee of Hemsby Institute
8 Trustee of Hemsby Charities.
9 Chairman of Governors of Grammar School
10 Chairman of Governors of High School.
11 Trustee of YArmouth Municipal Charity
12 Trustee of Christmas Charity.
13 Senior Alderman of Boro' of GtYarmouth
14 Chairman of Boro' Watch Committee
15 Chairman of Free Library & Museum Comms
16 Chairman of Corporation Insurance Commee
17 Corporation Representative London Police Com
18 Representative of GtYarm on Dischd Prisoners Aid Society
19 Corporation Representative, Port & Haven Commee
20 Chairman P&H Finance Committee.
21 J.P. for the Borough of GtYarmouth
22 Member of Licensing Committee
23 Chairman of Yarm Branch RSPC to As
24 Chairman of "Old Clo" Fund

18 January 1928 Appointments contind.

25 Vice President of GtYarmouth Hospital
26 Vice Prest. Y.M.C.A Branch.
27 Vice President Uniy Extension Society Yarm.
28 President Norfolk & Norwich Archaeological Soy.
29 President Great Yarmouth Archl. Society.
30 Founder & Director Yarm Historical Buildings Association
31 Founder & Hon Tresr. Norfolk & Norwich Trust
32 Presidt. Yarmouth Branch of Savings Bank
33 Trustee & Member Finance Comm N&N Savings BR
34 Member of East Norfolk Cons committees
35 Member Norfolk & Norwich Naturalists Socy.
36 Member of Suffolk Institute of Archaeology
37 Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London
38 Solicitor
39 Notary Public
40 Commissioners of Oaths
41 Perpetual Commee for Acknowledgements of Married Women
42 Clerk to the Yarmouth Commrs of Taxes
43 Land tax Commissioner for Cnty of Norfolk
44 General Commr of Taxes for Norfolk
45 Member of Yarmouth Conservative Clubs
46 P.M. Lodge United Friends (Craft Mason
47 Past Prov Grand Senior Warden Norfolk
48 P.E.Z Royal Arch Chapter Yarmouth

18 January 1928 Appointments continued

49 P.M. Youell Mark Lodge
50 P.P. Registrar East Anglian Mark Province
51 P. Noah Ark mariners.
52 P.E .Preceptor Knight Templars (Plantagenet)
53 Past Provincial rank Knight Templars.
54 Director - Yarmouth & Gorleston Inv&Builg Socy
Yarmouth Building Society.
Westown Building Compy.
E&W Flegg Building Soy.
Central Building Estate (C.Arcade)
E.V. Barr Limited.
Barr Limited.
Gorleston Cliff Estate Limited
55 Joint owner of West Cliff Estate.
56 " " Cliff Park Estate.
57 " " Marine Arcade
58 Chairman of the Law & Parliamentary Committee
59 J.P for the County of Norfolk
60 Prov S.W Mark Prov of E Anglia
61 Member Catchment Area Committee reprg Yarm
62 Member of Bishop's local advisory Committee
63 Member of Central council for care of Churches
64 " Provincial (Southern) "
65 Member of Lord Chancellor's Committee for nominating gentlemen as J.P.s for Gt Yarmouth -

Appointments etc formerly held

25 years Hon Secy Gt Yarmouth Hospital
Lieut 2 Vol Batt Norfolk Regiment
Member Yarmouth Board of Guardians
10 years Hemsby Churchwarden
Hemsby Parish Councillor
Treasure E&W Flegg Conservative Assn.
17 years Hon Secry Yarmouth High School
Hon Secretary Uniy Extension Lecturers.
Governor & Hon Treasurer Priory School.

25 June 1928

Have just returned from a
very nice short visit to Torquay
& Windemere. I left Hemsby on
Monday June 8th & arrived the
same evening at Torquay & joined
Madeline & Judy who had motored
there from Yarmouth earlier staying
at several places en route
including St Mary Scilly Isles.
We had a quiet week at Torquay.

visiting several interesting places
in the district including Dartmouth
R.N College where we saw the
memorial to the fallen officers
outside the Chapel, with Robs
name engraved with the others
& also the shrine in the Chapel
with a beautifully bound book in
a glass case on the shrine which
contained full particulars of each
officer, name, age, home address,
name of ship & how killed.
We also were shown over the
college which is certainly a wonderful
school containing about 600 boys.
We also visited & thoroughly inspected
Buckfast Abbey [242] - rebuilt by the
Benedictine Monks according to the
design & plan of the original Abbey
demolished in the 16th century &
on the same site - It was
originally intended that Judy should
go off for her camp at Windemere
by motoring herself but at the
last moment we decided to go

[242] Buckfast Abbey

with her too & so on the 15 June (Friday)
we started off in our small Morris
open motor for this long journey to
Windemere. We took until Monday
night to get there passing through
Exter, Taunton, Bridgwater, &
Gloucester where we stayed the first
night, spending some time at the
cathedral - The next day we stopped
at Monmouth & saw Mr Skinners
house at which Madeline used to
stay before we were married - We
also visited Simmons Yat one of
the beauty spots in England - We
also went to Tintern Abbey of which
a considerable portion remains
We passed along the Wye Valley
stopped at Hereford, saw the
cathedral from the outside, the
interior being locked up & then
made for Shrewsbury & had
to put up at the old fashioned
country Hotel as the more fashionable
ones were fully occupied as it
was Speech day week - [243]

[243] Speech day at Shrewsbury Public School

From Shrewsbury we motored on & entered Wales, for the first time in my life at Wrexham & saw the Welsh mountains on my birthday Sunday June 17 on which day I reached my 63rd year. We stopped & saw Chester Cathedral & went through the town admiring the quaint arcades above the streets & walked on the town walls - We had lunch here & went on to Liverpool for tea at the Railway Station Hotel [244] & saw the wonderful cathedral in the course of erection [245] Then on to Preston where we stayed Sunday night - on Monday we had a short run to Windemere which we reached without any mishap or trouble of any kind during the whole journey - Judy amazed me by her quick judgment & clever driving - Madeline & I felt inordinately proud of our daughter from every point of view. We got rooms after

[244] North Western Hotel
[245] Liverpool Cathedral

proper enquiries at Storrs Hall Hotel [246] at Bowness on Lake Windermere - formerly a delightful country mansion with beautiful gardens looking over the lake. We spent a very happy week there, M & I, Judith being engaged in lecturing on Nat History at a Guides Camp at Ambleside M & I took several delightful walks & Judy took us in the car for a very pretty drive Unfortunately Preston the Clerk to the Magistrates died on Saturday & we did not hear of it until Tuesday when we arrived at Windermere - He is anxious to try for the appoint. & wanted me back home to help him - I wrote asking each magistrate to help him & on Tuesday left Windemere at 8. AM. & arrived at Yarmouth Beach Station [247] at 5.17. & gave up the next few

[246] Storrs Hall Hotel
[247] Yarmouth Beach Station

days in doing what I could
The appointment will not
take place for some few weeks
& I cannot decide what the
result will be as Beevor the
other applicant has recently
become a partner of Prestons
& has certain advantages but
I will later record the
result - It was a very
great disappointment to break
one of the most delightful
holidays I had ever had but
I felt it would be such a
splendid thing for Ric to get
the appointment which is £900
a year & would practically
settle him for life - so I felt
it my duty to help him &
sacrifice Madelines & my
pleasure -

12th December 1928.

This is the 12th Decr 1928 & on
this day ~~10~~ eleven years ago ~~that~~
our dearest Rob was killed
by the Enemy - Madeline & I
have him constantly in our
minds & often picture what he
would be like if he were now
alive - It is nearly 6 months
since I made my last entry in
this journal - Through the
delay in making the appointment
of Magistrates Clerk - The JPs
decided not to at once appoint
one of the only two candidates
C.Beevor & Ric, the very good
chance, almost certain, that
Ric had, was lost as the matter
was delayed for 2 months while
advertisements were out for
applications for the post which
brought in very many including
that of Geoffrey Bracey a
man about 40 who all his
life was a favourite

Advocate, strong harty *(sic)* man
& very much liked - So he
got the appointment much to
Rics regret especially that the
appointment was not made the
day after my return from
Windemere as was originally
intended, However he obtained
by a large majority of the JPs
votes the Clerkship of the
County Bench at Rollesby
& also by a unanimous vote
of the Council of all parties
he was appointed Coroner for
Great Yarmouth the other
candidates being C. Beevor
Geoffrey Bracey, Pearson, Court
Crawshaw, & some others -
We were all very pleased at
this success & Ric obtained
data & information from
various coroners & from the
Coroners Society as to the correct
Robe & wig should be worn

in the Coroners Court & when
attending Council & other
processions - He wears a judge's
wig & blue silk flowing robes
& bands - He appointed Cecil
Beevor his Deputy = We have
not had very good luck with
our Cliff Park Estate this year,
although we built 6 houses
to push on the development of
the estate, we have been unable
at present to sell any of
them & the capital expended
on the buildings is costing
us rather a large amount.
The town clerk treated us rather
unfairly about the piece of
land connecting our estate with
the next (Wills) estate [248] & we
had always relied on Wills
representatives paying a good
round sum to get connected
with Gorleston & our estate
by using this piece of land for

[248] Wills Estate Cliff Farm/Park

a continuation of the present
Marine Parade in front of
our estate [249] to that in front
of their estate. But when the
Corporation purchased Wills
estate & it became the property
of the town we thought it
wise to stop up this piece of
road in case the Corporation
should attempt to make out
that it had become a public
road - We therefore erected
posts & rails right across the
end of the road - as we thought
the Town Clerk at once wrote
& said he would issue a
Police Court Summons against
our Company for obstructing
the highway unless we at
once removed the posts &
rails - this we refused to do
on the ground that never by
word or deed had we given
up the piece of land to the
town - This put the Town

[249] According to the plans at NRO reference above, this was at the junction of Bridge Road and Marine Parade

Clerk in a very difficult
position as if he were unable
to obtain the piece of land
& make it a continuation of
the present Marine Parade, the
only way he could get to his
estate would be by going
along the Lowestoft Road
as far as Hopton & then work
back to his estate a matter
of two or three miles - He
kept threatening us but we
did nothing & he was afraid
to proceed & this matter
went on for nearly 6 months
in which he had to do
something to keep any claim
the Corporation might have
alive. He then approached
us & offered to buy this
piece of land & further land
to the extreme south of the
estate for £2000, which
rather I think to our
disadvantage we accepted

& thus the rather unpleasant
prospect of litigation with
the Corporation of which I am
the Senior Alderman was avoided.
We have also been rather worried
by some of the tenants of the
Central Arcade - We were very
anxious to let all the shops
as quickly as possible & I
fear let in some (4 or 5) very
unsatisfactory tenants who
expected to make a large
profit at once & not
realize that all trades require
a certain time to become
established & so after the
first 18 months having
practically no capital
they made failures & gave
up their shops - This has
rather tended to give the
arcade a bad name &
will probably prevent our
easily letting these shops to
other tenants - but we feel

although it is rather a bother
it cannot have any permanent
effect & we hope that the fact
that the world famed caterers
'Lyons & Co' [250] having taken a
long lease of one of the shops
as a tea shop will to some
extent balance any ill
repute to the Arcade produced
by 4 or 5 unsatisfactory tenants
My health has not been
very good during the last
3 months, unfortunately I
dropped going to Sir Thomas
Horder after my last visit
in January 1927 & having
a bad cold & chest cough
called in William Wyllys
who did not think there
was much the matter but
there is no doubt that I
have bad attacks of
nervous dyspepsia &
flatulence with palpitations
& I think I shall get Horder

[250] J. Lyons & Co.

to overhaul me & try & get
me right again - If we
can get office matters arranged
satisfactorily Madeline Judy
& I would much like to go
for a 2 months trip to Egypt
& Cyprus, & I am endeavouring
to arrange the trip for next
Janry Feb or March - our
Company owning the 4 halls
have gone on not with so
much success as formerly -
EV Barr our General Manager
does not devote sufficient
time & attention to the job
& apparently thinks more
about matters connected
with the Town Council of which
he is a Councillor than of
his paid job as Managing
Director of the four cinemas -
We have decided to dispose
of them all at any reasonable
price. Ric's boys are still
at home being educated

by a rather uneducated person
who seems not only to do the
"education work" but also the
whole house work assisted
by a boy & a temporary servant
I think Ric & Doris are making
a great mistake in keeping
the boys from school & they
will be sorry for it afterwards
& will hear about it from
the boys themselves - In these
days of great competition
it is very desirable to have
all boys particularly well
educated - Ric knew far
more at Tony's age than
Tony does - We do not
see very much of Doris who
has her own friends - I
keep of course in close touch
with Ric who is a very
attractive & charming
chap & will always be
generally liked - just a
little impulsive & hot tempered

but this will wear off -
He has 5 or 6 appointments
now & has plenty of work
to engage his attention - He
does not pay quite the attention
he should in his own interest
to the professional part of the
practice & I frequently try
& spur him on in this -
Madeline has had very good
health on the whole during
the year except for the last
10 days during which she has
had a nasty abscess under one
of her teeth which has greatly
pulled her down - I am
persuading her to go up to
London to see the dentist
& her specialist & have
matters put right - Bertie
goes on with us as usual
although he has been considering the
matter of buying a suitable country
house & starting housekeeping - I
fear we should not be able personally

to bear the total expenses of running
Hemsby Hall so we are on the look
out for a smaller place high up
between Norwich & Yarmouth like
Strumpshaw - We enquired some 20
years ago about the nice little house
on the top of the hill overlooking
the valley of the Yare with most
beautiful views - We then found
it belongs to a family named
Barnes & we believe they would let
the house & possibly sell it. I
think Madeline Judy & I would
be happy there about 5 miles
from Norwich & 15 or 16 from
Yarmouth if Bertie decides on
giving up Hemsby - We should
prefer to stay at Hemsby Hall if
we could possibly afford it & Ric
wishes us very strongly to stay
here as there might be some
chance if things look of (*sic)* of
possibly Ric & one of his boys
following me but I don't think
on the ~~cost~~ ground of expense it will

not *(sic)* be possible. Madeline
has improved our garden in
the most wonderful way & it
is quite a show place. We have
now ~~two~~ one more gorgeous border
to the right of the lawn & on the
left in the distance some beautiful
cherry trees & lilacs - We have
invested in a motor lawn
mower & it is a great success
& saves a lot of labour & a pony.
Judy makes great progress with
birds & has delivered several
lectures on her Dutch visit, Scolt
Hd work & Blakeney point - one
of the lectures was given to a
camp of Guide Commissioners &
was well received. She has
joined the U.S.A Ornithological
Society thro' the recommendation of
Mr Crosby an American citizen
brother of Lady Huntingfield [251], who
is very interested in birds &
stayed here last year -

[251] Margaret Eleanor Crosby, wife of William Vanneck, 5th Baron Huntingfield of Heveningham Hall

12 January 1930

It is just over a year since I
made the last entry in this
journal - A good bit has
happened since particularly
relating to Ric & Doris - For
some two or three years Doris
got very friendly with other men
& particularly with young Robin
C. Thorp a son of Col Thorp
who lives at Hemsby with his
father. She used to go about
with him to dances etc but he
was also a great friend of Rics
& we all believed it was quite
a harmless friendship as they were
so open about their intercourse
Madeline & I disapproved of
a married woman doing that
kind of thing but Ric always
laughed at us whenever we
mentioned the matter & said
we were old fashioned & it was
always done nowadays & it

was perfectly harmless & Robin Thorp
was a great friend of his & perfectly
honorable. About a year ago
Doris seemed to see less of Thorp
& became very friendly with their
family doctor - Fyffe - an [252]
Irishman who lived at Martham
& with his partners Boake &
Taylor were practically the only
doctors practicing in this district
This latter association became
so pronounced that Ric told
Doris that she must drop
Fyffe & she many times assured
him that it was only a platonic
friendship. However at the
beginning of the year 1929 he
insisted upon her giving him
up & she then confessed she
was fond of him but she had
done nothing to be ashamed
of. She also said she was
considering the possibility of
going away with him Fyffe
& mentioned still that she had

[252] Andrew Alexander Fyffe, M.R.C.S. L.R.C.P. Physician & Surgeon, & District Medical Officer to West Flegg.

not done anything to disgrace
Ric or the children - on the
24th February 1929, he decided
he could not continue to live
with Doris under the circumstances
& left their house The Old
Rectory W. Somerton & came
to us - We fully considered
the matter & as there was a
denial by her & Fyffe of any
misconduct Ric decided that
she should consult a solicitor
with the view to have a deed
of separation - Geoffrey Bracey
was consulted by her with Ric's
assent & the negotiations
continued for some time but
Doris could never be got to
come to terms - She had involved
Ric in debt to a very considerable
amount & did not seem to
care anything about Ric's
position or his power to
meet her debts out of his small
income. Ric continued to live

with us & Doris & the children to live
at Somerton. Robin Thorp
saw Ric frequently & condoled
with him about his troubles thro'
Fyffe & Doris - certain information
came about Fyffes association
with ~~Thorp~~ Doris & ultimately
thought it desirable to consult
an independent Solicitor as
to taking proceedings agst Fyffe
& Doris for divorce & I suggested
he should see Bambridge a partner
of Edmond Reeve a Solicitor of
high standing in the County
of Norfolk - However he did not ~~yet~~
do very much to encourage proceedings
& we thought it would be better
for him to write out a full
statement of the history of his
married life since he came
to Somerton & see Sir Reginald
Poole [253] the head of the Firm
of Lewis & Lewis of national
reputation. This he did
in about May & Sir Reginald

[253] Sir Reginald Poole

saw him & read the statement
& said he thought subject to
the evidence being forthcoming
he thought Ric could be successful
in a petition. Ric said he
could not afford to instruct
Sir R's firm to carry the matter
through but Sir Reginald said
you are a solicitor & we should
not charge you anything for
our services in carrying the matter
thro', unless we had to send
our representative down to
Somerton for some time you
would have to pay £25 or £50
for his expenses - Under these
circumstances Ric thankfully
agreed to L&L acting for him.
When it got to Thorps ears
as to a divorce ~~proc~~ petition
he was probably told about
it by Doris - He saw Ric in
a frenzied condition & said
he strongly advised Ric to
have a separation deed &

& ultimately took up such a
curious attitude that Ric began
to suspect him & then he admitted
that Doris had got him under
her thumb. On one occasion
he rang up Ric & said that
unless he agreed to a separation
by 10 o'clock the next morning
Doris would file a petition against
Ric & Nancy. This was of course
merely a threat & was not
carried out then - Ric then
employed Lewis & Lewis to make
enquiries about the conduct of
Fyffe & Thorp & a very nice
& clever representative came
down a Mr Cranfield who saw
a great many people & collected
evidence. All the time after
Ric left Somerton Fyffe &
Doris closely associated
with each other & did so
openly. Ric all along had
been most unbelieving of
anything wrong & it was only

when the absolute evidence had been
obtained & there was no doubt about
it that the petition was filed
against Doris & the two Co-Respondents
Fyffe & Thorp. Lewis retained Mr
Roland Oliver KC [254] & Mr Bucknell
& Doris surprised us very much by
going to the expense of retaining
the ex Attorney General Sir Patrick
Hastings K.C. [255] & Mr Hodson
Fyffe retained Cassells K.C [256] & Mr
Victor Russell & Thorp employed
Frampton a Junior - shortly before
the trial Doris got her solicitors
to join Nancy Badeley as a party
This was wicked spitefulness as she
had no evidence of any sort or kind
& of course much upset Maud Badeley
as well as Nancy. However Ric
instructed Lewis to have her medically
examd by an eminent obstetric surgeon
who certified she was a Virgo intacta
Doris Solrs were notified of this
but refused to move until a surgeon
nominated by them had examined

---

[254] Roland Oliver

[255] Patrick Hastings

[256] James Cassels (who was allegedly told that he was considered "the second rudest man at the Bar", Sir Patrick Hastings being the rudest.)

her, she was done with the same
result & Theodore Goddard withdrew
her name from the suit & stated
that the Respondent deeply
regretted her action & was prepared
to write her a personal letter
expressing her regret etc - Rics
solrs however had Nancy dismissed
from the suit in open court
giving particulars of Doris' conduct
& the judge Mr Justice Hill
dismissed her from the suit with
costs against Doris - The case [257]
came on in Mr Justice Hills
court on the 19th November 1929
Tuesday & went on four days each
week & one extra Tuesday making
9 whole days. Ric gave his
evidence straightforwardly & simply
& was evidently speaking the truth
He was crossexd by Sir Patrick
Hastings K.C. for 2 or 3 hours
& then by Cassells & Frampton
They all slew *(sic)* as much mud as
they could but ~~altho~~ all along

[257] Divorce Court File: 2805. Appellant: Richard Gournay Ferner. Respondent: Doris Esperanza Rosemary Chicheley Ferrier. Co-respondent: Robin Claude Thorp and Andrew Alexander Fyffe.

the Judge saw that Ric got fair play
On one rather subtel (*sic)* question in
crossexn by Sir P Hastings Ric said
Sir Patrick you are trying to get me
into a trap " This much upset Sir
P who lost his temper but the Judge
said 'Just answer the questions'
Ric at once said 'I am sorry' & the
matter passed on but I think
it did good. Doris made a complete
fool of herself in the box. She admitted
that Thorp was in love with her but
that she only kissed him & Fyffe
in the presence of Ric. She also
admitted that she thought there
was no harm ingoing to Newmarket
& other places with Thorp & staying
with him at Hotels - altho he
was in love with her ! she also
admitted being in lonely places with
Fyffe & was lying along side him
in a very lonely spot & she was
much upset by Rics conduct & he
Fyffe was soothing her ! - She denied
all allegations of adultery with

Thorp or Fyffe & what the servants
said they saw she of course
denied & in one case said
they could not have seen her
or Thorpe (*sic)* from where they were
but Haward the architect
produced a plan & showed
that the servants were right
The absurd way that Fyffe &
Thorp dramatically denied
everything was ridiculous
especially Thorps evidence.
Mrs Thorp who had left
8 months ago in consequence
of her husbands assn with
D appeared back from Ireland
the day before the trial & her
evidence from her own mouth
as to the meaning of the letters
she had received from Fyffe
& written to Taylor her husbands
late partner did much to
prove Rics case. The speech
by P. Hastings was merely a
tirade of vituperation against
Ric & his speech was adopted

by the other counsel. But fortunately
Roland Oliver Rics counsel had
the last word & was deadly in
his logic & deduction. After he
had finished the Judge asked them
whether they were not satisfied
with the evidence they had heard
& the Chairman of the Special Jury
turned round to consult his colleagues
but R. oliver at once stated that
he thought the Judge should sum
up otherwise the other side might
appeal for want of directions &
the jury then took the hint &
said they did not want to give
a hasty verdict & would prefer a
full summing up & so the case
was again adjourned from the
Friday to the following Tuesday
Dec 3. It was a most anxious
time as the case was entirely closed
& nothing could be done but wait
many times we reviewed the evidence &
felt that there could not be any other
result except a verdict for Ric

but then again there is always
the uncertainty of the law &
what a terrible thing it would
be for Ric all his life if he were
still saddled with Doris & then
again the costs against him if
he lost would with his own
costs amount to at least
£7000 or £8000. The whole
proceeding made me feel ill
& upset me. However we
managed to get through the
Saturday, Sunday & Monday
& approached the Court on
Tuesday Dec 3 with very great
anxiety. We were soon relieved
as Mr Justice Hill had made
up his mind about the case
& stated the facts & reviewed
the evidence in such a way
that really with open minds the
Jury could find no other verdict
than one for Ric. He was simply
a very able & strong advocate for
Ric & showed by testing the evidence

of Doris, the girl Howard & of
Thorp & Fyffe that they were not
speaking the truth. He reminded
the Jury that the evidence of Jeffers
& C. Beevor on Doris side stated
that Ric was an honest man -
& always behaved like a gentleman
to his wife - He commented strongly
on the speech of Sir Patrick Hastings
against Ric & pointed out that the
evidence on either side did not
support his statements. When he had
finished summing up at the end of
2 hours he asked if the jury wished
to retire & the ~~chair~~ foreman of the
Jury turned round for a minute &
then said they had unanimously come
to the conclusion that the Respondent
Doris Ferrier was guilty of adultery
with both Co Respondents Dr A. Fyffe [258]
& Robin C.Thorp. The Judge gave
judgement for Ric against both
Co Respondents with costs & custody
of the children. So Ric's character
is untarnished as no charge or

[258] Subsequently struck off the Medical Register - Supplement to British Medical Journal June 7 1930 p.253

suggestion of anything even derogatory
to his character had been suggested
It was of course a very great
relief to Madeline & me & we
received many letters expressing
sympathy with us in our experience
one member of the Council of Yarmouth
told me that had all been so
sympathetic that they had almost
considered that it was their own
case & felt just as if they themselves
had been in it. I felt the strain
rather especially during the trial
& ever since I have felt rather
poorly. We were rather worried
too in having to find £2000 for
Ric's case & the amount he owed
Robin Thorp as we had made
no provision for any such
sum. I fear we may have to
find a further large sum to
pay for Doris' costs, we hope to
get that amount & some of
the £2000 back but of course
it is very uncertain if we do
My bladder has also given me
some trouble at intervals & it

has been great pain to hold my
water at times perhaps at intervals
of some months. Recently I found
this so when I was attending a
Book Club Committee at Dr. Shaws
house & not liking to upset the
business I refrained from asking
him to let me go but had to do so
at last & then found I could
not I got home & suffered great
pain & had to send for W. Wyllys
to come & draw off the fluid
& for over a fortnight I have had
a painful attack of cystitis or
catarrh of the bladder & have
had lots of pain - Wyllys has
been every day for over a fortnight
but at present very slow progress
has been made. About 3 months
ago (Novr 5) I saw Sir Thomas
Horder to whom I mentioned my
bladder trouble but he did not
appear to notice it & said the
only thing the matter with me
was that my nerves were in a
bad state ! Ric & his boys are

at present living with us at
Hemsby Hall. We have sent
the boys to ~~Low~~ the school at
Lowestoft Ric used to go to
South Lodge kept by a Mr
Sewell. The boys like it very
much & are very happy with
us, we have given them a
special playroom & during the
two holidays they have been
with us we had a boy from
Cambridge & a girl who was at
the high school to play with
them & look after them. Since
my last entry Kate McDonald
has died aged 94 - she was
the daughter of my grandfathers
brother her father being William
Smith Ferrier F.R.C.S who
died in 1845 [259] nearly 100 years
ago. he held the appointment
of Coroner now held by Ric
I have decided to go up to London
& have Horder thoroughly examine
me with a view to having my

[259] In fact he died in 1848

bladder thoroughly examined & if
necessary properly treated.

Sunday 14 December 1930 - It is
nearly a year since I made the last
entry in my journal, & a good deal
has happened to me since - after my
last entry on 12 Janry I struggled on
with W. Wyllys until the 9th February
he came to see me every day & gave me
eurodopene [260] for my bladder & hoped with
great care & rest he would be able to
avoid any necessity for surgical attention
& get the cystitis & bladder or kidney
trouble quite right - However although
I did not get worse I showed no
signs of any real improvement & I
had bad pain when I passed water
but also a continuous aching pain
always, round my bladder & along
my eurethra (*sic)* so we decided that
I should see Horder & I got Wyllys
to write him fully describing my
symptoms & asked for an appointment
for me to see him - This was arranged
& on the 9th February 1930, although

[260] ? Urotropine

I had had a very bad night
having been awake nearly the whole
night I motored with Madeline &
Judith I had a very easy journey & got to the
Quebec Hotel within 4 hours from
leaving. Went to Sir Thomas Horders
with Madeline & he examined me
etc & sent for Sir John Thompson Walker [261]
an eminent surgeon with a European
reputation on the removal of the
Prostate gland & they advised me
to have that operation performed
On February 12 I entered the
Empire Nursing Home at Westminster
recommended by Sir T. Horder & had
two special examinations & 14
days treatment & then it was
decided I should have the
prostate gland removed by
Sir J.T. Walker. This was done
on the 28th February at 10 o'clock
Sir Thomas Horder also attended
& everything went off quite satisfactorily
The Doctors Walker Horder Roche

[261] Sir John Thompson Walker

Andrews & Roche as well as the
Anaesthetist Sir Francis Shipway [262]
& Lawrence the pathologist were
very kind & helpful & my
own nurse Nurse Jeffreys &
the other nurses made me as
comfortable & happy as possible
I was in bed from 12 february to
April 3rd & then after a week
or so Madeline Judy & I went
by ship to the Italian Riviera
& the French Riviera. We went there
in the Dutch ship - The Christiann Huyson [263]
& I very much enjoyed the trip we
spent the day at Algiers on the way
& arrived at Genoa - quite safely
but through having so much private
luggage which had to come with us
we could not get the 'blue train' [264] & had
to go by the slow ordinary one & reached
Rapallo [265] about 12. We divided
our holiday of about 5 weeks about
equally between the sea trips, Rapallo
& Menton [266] We all very much enjoyed
the change & we made out a journal

---

[262] Sir Francis Shipway
[263] MS Christiaan Huygens
[264] 'Blue Train'
[265] Rapallo
[266] Menton

of our doings we have had bound
& illustrated by Picture Post cards
I was received very kindly by the
Yarmouth people, my various
committees, council, & other public
concerns had sent me resolutions
of good wishes for my complete
recovery - & Mr Harbord our M.P
called at the Nursing Home to see
me & sent me some grapes peaches
etc I felt rather slack for some
time & had some rheumatism
but I am now I believe getting
into very much better health
The operation was most expensive
but if I had not had it done the
Doctors told me I should be a
rather useless invalide (*sic)* - now
I have good hope of being useful
for some years. Rics affairs have
gone on. The cost of his divorce
was nearly £4000 which we had
to provide & had to get advances
from the Bank for the purpose - & which
has greatly inconvenienced us at the

office - Ric was able to obtain
about £230 for loss of the Clerkship
to the Guardians which helped him
to settle some of his debts to
tradesmen, the largest being incurred
by his wife - He has also lived
with us & his boys have spent the
holidays with us - I hope this
will be an experience from which
he will gain some good about
money matters - He is rather addicted
to doing what he wants & altho
he is still very heavily in debt
he spends a good bit on a motor
car which I do not really think
he can afford - but I think it
better for him to work through these
various matters & so gain experiences
which I hope will stand him in
good stead when he is older &
has more money. I have arranged
to let him take the Hemsby Cottage
for his life but not with any power
to mortgage or sell it so that it
may be kept in the family -

Doris has made herself as unpleasant as
possible about the children & tried
to upset the children as much as
possible by writing the most foolish
letters to them, & taking out proceedings
before the Court asking for custody
of the children which has always
been received (*sic)* with the exception of
a day during the term & a day
& a night during the holidays in
London. Tomorrow another application
is made by for extended custody &
they are employing Sir Patrick Hastings
to try & persuade the judge Lord
Merrivale (nee Duke) [267] to accede to
her request. Ric has become very
friendly with the Longes of Yelverton [268]
there are 2 boys & about 4 or 5
girls & also he has become friendly
with Mrs Fanny Cremer (nee Blofeld)
& her family consisting of a son [269] & two
daughters one of whom Phyllys is very
pretty but not in strong health.
Our arcades are going on satisfactorily
& our Cinema Companies have required

---

[267] Lord Merrivale

[268] Revd John Charles Longe, Rector of Yelverton and Alpington also inheritor of Spixworth Hall from brother Francis Bacon Longe

[269] Thomas Edmund Cremer, son of Francis Woodrow Cremer & Fanny Georgina (neé Blofeld) of Swanninton

very large sums to establish the new
'talkie' system but we have arranged
for the money amounting to many thousands
of pounds to be paid by weekly sums
on the hire purchase ssystem - Judith
has made great progress with her
bird work & studies & is in some
demand as a lecturer - Bertie
still continues with us although
he has been negotiating for a large
country house, he has been
considering Gunton Hall Corton,[270]
The Old Hall Ormesby [271] (late Col Edis) [272]
& lately the Fishers [273] place Burgh Hall [274]
nothing has yet been decided by him.
We have also decided to have a balcony
erected at the Palace Theatre Lowestoft
at a cost including chairs & carpets over
£8000.

April 26 - 1931 Received Census
Paper from B. Edmonds the
enumerator for Hemsby addressed
No of Registration 219 - No of Registration
Sub District 4 - No of Enumeration
District 10 - Name of Householder
R.F.E. Ferrier Esq The Hall Hemsby.

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[270] Gunton Hall, Corton
[271] Ormesby Old Hall
[272] Colonel Sir Robert William Edis
[273] Bishop George Fisher
[274] Burgh House, Fleggburgh

I filled it up on Sunday afternoon
the twenty sixth April 1931 as follows
1 Richard F.E. Ferrier, Head of Household
Hemsby Hall 65 years & 10 months, married
Born NorfolkGreat Yarmouth British Born
Solicitor, Notary Public JP, Employs
others.
2. Madeline L Ferrier, Wife, 65
years 9 months born Middlesex
Kensington, British Born -
4. Judith Madeline Ferrier Daughter
28 years 11 months born Norfolk
Great Yarmouth (6 Kimberley Terrace)
3 Richard Gournay Ferrier, Son, 34
years & 5 months. British Born,
Solicitor, Clerk to R.D.C. etc born
8 South Quay Gt Yarmouth
5 John A.H. Ferrier, brother, 62 years
9 months. Single, Norfolk Great Yarmouth
(11 Regent Street) Solicitor
6. Richard A.P.G Ferrier Grandson
School - South Lodge Lowestoft
11 years & 3 months born at Gorleston
Suffolk (Thet Lodge Marine Parade.
7 Robert Gurney Ferrier Grandson
School - South Lodge Lowestoft 9
years & 6 months born Nelson Rd S.
Gt Yarmouth Norfolk

8. Frances Ellen Otty, 48 years & 2 months born at Baconsthorpe Norfolk Housekeeper.
9. Gertrude Alice English 29 years Great Snoring Norfolk Cook
10. Ethel Green, 21 years 6 months born at Potter Heigham Norfolk Parlour Maid
11 Sylvia Blanch Knights 19 years 9 months Born at Castle Acre Norfolk House Parlour maid
12 Rena May Jackson, 18 years 3 months born at Edgefield Norfolk House maid
13. Helen Hilda Hampton, 23 years & 5 nonths born at Thelnetham Suffolk Kitchen maid

(14) Kate the Hd Housemaid was away on holiday

Rooms 8 sitting (excluding scullery)
16 Bedrooms.
24

Males 5
Females 8
Persons 13.

signed Richard F.E. Ferrier
J.P Norfolk

Sunday Sixth December 1931.

With the exception of a note about
the Census in April, it is just a
year since I made an entry in this
Journal. I have had another rather
expensive & unfortunate year, altho'
I am thankful that it is ending
brightly. Early in the year Madeline
caught a cold & got a sore throat which
went on & her mouth became sore, one
morning late in April she found her ear
was paining her. I suggested going up to
London with her to see Sir Thomas Horder
but she suggested waiting a day or two
however the next day it was worse
so we decided to motor up on the following
day, in the meantime I rang up
Horder & explained the position to him
& he advised me to take her to Mr
Sydney Scott [275] or Mr Just, so I 'phoned
Scott & made an appointment to see
him with M the next day May the 8th
on Friday the 8th May Judy & I
took Madeline in the Austin Car
leaving at 9.45 & arriving at

[275] Mr S R Scott M.S., F.R.C.S.

Mr S. Scotts house at 2.50 - We made
Madeline comfortable with pillows &
hot water bottles. Mr Scott at once
examined her very completely & said it
was a bad mastoid & he advised an
operation as soon as possible to which
I of course assented - We at once
made arrangements for her to go into
the Empire Nursing Home Vincent Square
Westminster where I was 8 weeks last
year. We engaged the room on the 4th
floor next to my room & found my
old nurse Jeffrey available for her -
The operation took place early that
same evening May 8. 1931. & the
Doctor reported to me that it was
satisfactory. However it took a
very long time to heal & we were
very anxious about her & the results
I saw Scott as often as possible &
also Horder with Scott after each
consultation. She was nearly 8 weeks
in the Nursing Home & left on the
3rd June, she is to continue the
dressing of the ear by a Doctor

I went up & was with her at the Hotel
Quebec for some days & then Judy
took her in the small car for a motor
tour through Cornwall Devon Somerset
& Dorset & I joined them in August
& went about with them - M gradually
got better the mild soft air of Cornwall
doing her much good & the ear gradually
began healing up - she having it addressed
by a local Doctor every few days -
The recovery of the mastoid operation
was retarded by the germs in her
system through Kidney trouble - Scott
gave her an antacid saline which is
to be taken continuously to keep down
the Kidney infection - We came back
from Osmington Mills [276] in Dorset where
we were staying in Septr & arrived
home on September 15th, after a
continual absence by Madeline of
5 months - My health has not
has not been quite so good this
year. I saw Horder on the 15th May
for flatulence, indigestion & heartburn
& he really gave me no advice at

[276] Osmington Mills

at all - so I had to treat myself
for blood pressure, altho he has
never told me that this is high
I feel that was because it is always
his policy not to frighten or disturb
his patients. However he gave me
no medicine but on being pressed
by me he said I might take some
of the medicine he gave me after
my operation which was to reduce
irritability of the heart & which had
An Bromide & Strychnyne *(sic)* eliminated
from another drug. However I have
reduced my food & drink to a min.
& found my heartburn & indigestion
better & the only thing besides which
worries me is hissing in my ears &
bad dreams at nightbut with the
exception of these not very important
matters I am very well & alert
mentally & physically altho 66½ ys
& hope with great care to go on for
some time to smoothe out my affairs
for M & the children. I undertake
a lot of public work in addition

to my practice & the directorship of
Barr Limited & the Arcades & Building
estate which occupy nearly all my
mornings & which produce probably
£7000 or £8000 a year between us.
I attend the Borough & County Benches
Many Committees of the Council 3
of which (Free Library, Watch &
Insurance) I am chairman I am
also an active member of the Port
& Haven Commissioners & Chairman of
the Finance committee of that body.
Also I go to Norwich for meetings every
month or so of the Trustees of the
Savings Bank & of the meetings of
the Catchment area of the Finance
Committe of which I am the Chairman.
I also attend the Bishops advisory
committee on Churches & the Provincial
committee & Central committee of the
care of churches in the Jerusalem
Chamber Westminster Abbey where I
meet many important & learned
people. I represent the Bishop
of Norwich at these London meetings

I also attend frequent meetings
of the N & N archaeological Society
of which I am past president &
of the Council of the Norfolk Record
Society [277] of which I am chairman
& of the Caister Excavation Committee [278]
of which I am also chairman -
So I have a very full & most
interesting life. A change has
been made in Ric's life. We found
his activities were somewhat curtailed
in our office particularly in advocacy
as he could not touch any advocacy
in the police Courts as I am a J.P.
& he found it difficult to get
work to do by reason of Newman
our clerk of 40 years being jealous
of anybody taking the work away
from him so he cast about & found
a very good opening in Norwich
with Jno Pollard [279] a very old friend
of mine, who had similar appoint-
-ments to Ric & they arranged for Ric
to join him as partner & to obtain
the reversion of his Pollards appointments

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[277] Norfolk Record Society

[278] Caister-on-Sea Roman fort

[279] John Empson Toplis Pollard, solicitor based at Prince of Wales Road, Norwich. Son of Laurence Giffard Pollard (Queens' College Cambridge, m. 1879) and grandson of George Cox Pollard, bursar at Queens', 1850s, and rector at South Walsham, 1858-1901.

on his retirement, & in addition
to the reversion of his practice - Ric
was able to make the necessary
financial arrangements with Barclays
BR so that if he is very careful
about his money matters & reduces
the Bank loan he will be able
to increase his present income of
about £1200 to £2000 or £2500
in 3 or 4 years - He has nice rooms
in a country house quite near
Norwich & has picked up a friend
whom he likes named Radcliffe -
a R.C. - For short time *(sic)* he was
engaged to be married to Phyllis
Cremer a niece of Ketton Cremer [280]
of Felbrigge Hall but one of
them or both discovered fortunately
that they were not suited to each
other & it was broken off - Bertie
still is with us & we are very
happy having our business & our
interests constantly a source of
discussion. Judy is still very
much interested in bird history

[280] Robert Wyndham Ketton-Cremer

& ornithology - She was very keen
to have a watchers hut on Scolt
Head & I got Boulton & Paul [281]
to erect one for her & she has spent
many weeks there with friends
taking notes of the various migrations
of birds. She is frequently called
upon to lecture on Natural History
& is a regular attendant at the
monthly B.O.U dinner in London
We still greatly appreciate our
beautiful home Hemsby Hall
We have rather put ourselves
about to greatly enlarge the Palace
Theatre at Lowestoft which belongs
to our Company We spent on it
about £10,000 -

Saturday 8th October 1932

It is ten months since I made
the last entry in this journal
We go on very quietly at Hemsby Hall
which we still think is a very
delightful house & grounds &
gives us a very comfortable &
luxurious home. We still have

[281] Boulton & Paul Ltd

Frances Otty who came to us over
25 years ago as a parlour maid
& for 10 years has been our
housekeeper, who has under
her six women servants & a house
boy - we also have a chauffeur
Starkings who has been with us
several years & whom we all like
We also have A Lake & two other
gardeners, who have all they
can manage to keep our garden
as beautiful as it is - Starkings
& Lake live in the very roomy
& convemient house on our
estate - Judy also has a small
Morris car which she drives
whenever she goes away & finds
the expense of travelling much
reduced thereby - She is still
greatly devoted to ornithology
& is in frequent demand for
lectures not only in Norfolk but
all over the country - she spends
several weeks during each
year in her Bungalow on

Scolt Head Island, which she
has named "The Curlew" & when
she is not there she is easily
able to let the bungalow to
birders who gladly pay a good
rent for it. Ric for some time
lived at Brooke Hall [282] with
Basil Radcliffe & they suited
each other admirably & were
very happy, unfortunately Radcliffes
appointment with the Norwich
Electricity Committee came to
an end & he left shortly after-
-wards Ric did not care to
live alone with the people
as their only lodger & so arranged
to lodge at the County Club [283]
where he is now - He has made
a great many friends at and
round Norwich & spends a good
portion of his time visiting
them. He gets on very well
with John Pollard his partner
& has a comfortable & easy
time - With his appointments

[282] Brooke Hall was the birthplace and home of Sir Astley Cooper, who was the most popular physician in London in the early 19th century, and who was the Sergeant Surgeon to George IV, William IV and Queen Victoria.

[283] The Norfolk Club

& share of the practice he has a
very good income at present
about £1200 to £1300 & in the
course of a few years or when
Pollard retires it will increase
to nearly double this amount.
My health has rather declined
during the last year - I suffered
from Gas & indigestion & felt
very tired & worn out towards
the end of the day & had more
often recurring attacks of
irregular palpitation which
were very inconvenient - I saw
Sir Thomas Horder last June,
whom I have seen each year
for the last ten years & he has
always rather pooh poohed
the idea of my heart being
wrong but on this occasion for
the first time he said my heart
was enlarged & hypertrophied
& had had far too much work
put upon it & that I must
give up all my public work

& reduce my private work to
4 days a week of 2 hours a
day or he would not answer
for what would happen. This
was very depressing but I have
confined myself to mornings
only at the office & have
decided not to undertake any
work of a worrying nature &
do not attend Committees of
the Corporation except simple
matters - I hope when I see
Sir Thomas Horder next month
I shall have a more favourable
report as my heart attacks
are not quite so frequent.
Madeline has not been very
well either - She has never
regained her pre operation
health but I think it is due
to the climate here & we are
trying to arrange to go to
Cyprus for the spring next year
which I trust will do her
a lot of good -

Ric's boys Tony & Robert spend
a good bit of their holidays
with us, they are very attractive
boys & with very good manners
Ric hopes to send them to Radley
College - At present they are still
at their preparatory school
South Lodge Lowestoft kept by
Mr Sewell - where Ric went
to school when about 10 -

November 1st 1932 I feel I must
make a note in this journal to-
-day as this day forty years namely
November 1st 1892 I fought my
first municipal election as a
conservative candidate for the
Regent Ward which my father
represented for many years retiring
in 1880 - There were in those days 6
~~9~~ representatives for each ward there
being only 6 wards instead of 12
as at present & 36 councillors also as
at present - Two representatives
came out each year for election
for each ward, now one only comes

out. In my attempted election
in 1892 I ran as a colleague of
Edward Winton [284] a well known
Hotel proprietor & we were opposed
by James Williment [285] a liberal
candidate who carried on business
as an accountant in Regent
St Yarmouth & is now represented
by his two sons. It was the duty
of the candidates to see that both
the associated candidates should
secure a vote each a vote
given to one only of them would
cause the other vote to be lost
Wintons friends were anxious
about his return & in about
30 cases plumped for him & did
not vote of (*sic)* me as they should
have done which would have
resulted in both he & I being
returned well at the top of
the poll - as it was he was top
with 30 votes majority, Williment
next him with 25 votes less & I
was third with 5 votes less than
Williment & 30 votes less than Winton.

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[284] Winton's Assembly Rooms and The Royal Standard Hotel

[285] Williment commissioned Arts & Craft offices Fastolff House in Great Yarmouth, built in 1908, designed by Ralph Scott Cockrill.

Winton was very apologetic for
the cause of the result but he
ought to have carried on fairly
& not sought an advantage over
his ~~opponent~~ colleague merely to
secure self aggrandisement without
putting himself in a worse position.
My helpers were many, Mr William
Barnard, Dr Collier, Graystone Secy
Regent Ward, Atkins afterwards a
T.C & Guardian & Magistrate & a host
of others - N Saffling, Fenner, Frere,
Tomkins & several others lent carriages
& carts - For two years I did nothing
towards entering the Council but
in 1894 I became a candidate for
the St Georges Ward, which my
grandfather represented for about
50 years in the conservative interest
& I was returned head of the Poll
with a good majority with Thomas
Green the liberal candidate coming
next as the elected member -
But referring to my first contested
election in 1892 what a lifetime

I have had since that date forty
years ago - Continual prosperity
& happiness, the only blot on the
latter when we lost our dearest
naval son in the great war on
the 12 December 1917 - In 1892
I was only just 27, & unknown
man & just beginning to make a
moderate income of about £300
a year as a solicitor - little
did I think at that time that
I should suceed in many branches
of life -That I should one
day become Senior Alderman &
past Mayor Magistrate for the
County of Norfolk & for Yarmouth
Chairman of the Governors of the Yarm
Grammar & High School, Chairman
of the Finance Commee & of the Watch
& Free Library commees Lord of the
Manor & Squire of my family village
& owner of Hemsby Hall - A
perfectly happy married life
with the dearest & most affectionate
of wives, indeed a verily true helpmeet

respected I hope by most people
in my town or at any rate treated
with respect & courtesy wherever
I go - Holding the highest provincial
ranks in Free Masonry & honoured
by the Bishop in putting me on many
Diocesan Committees in a consultative
or advisory capacity - My son after
trouble with his marriage caused
by no fault of his but due entirely
to the character & conduct of his
wife is now taking his proper
position in the County & will I
hope establish himself for the
future by making a second &
satisfactory marriage - My
worldly circumstances are
prosperous & easy &
will I hope enable me to leave Judy
my dearest daughter easy in life &
enable her to prosecute her studies
of bird life & natural history
without being hindered from want
of money. No man could have been
more blessed in every way than I
have during the forty years that

terminate today, and providence
has indeed blessed my doings in
every way - I have not had robust
health but the only real illness
I have had occurred in 1930 & that
of my dear wife in 1931 when we were
able to procure the very best
medical service in the country to
bring us both to good health
again - Thus the evening of our
lives has arrived for we are now
both 67. & I trust we may be
allowed a few years to see our
children established & our grand-
-sons Richard & Robert on the high
road to prosperous & useful
lives -

Ferrier died 5th May 1933 [286]

---

[286] Buried in St Mary's Churchyard, Hemsby

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